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THE
HISTORY OF FITZWILLIAM,

NEW HAMPSHIRE,

FROM

1752 TO 1887.

BY

REV. JOHN F. NORTON, A.M.

WITH A

GENEALOGICAL RECORD

OF MANY

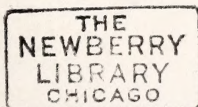
FITZWILLIAM FAMILIES

BY

JOEL WHITEMORE. pt. 1

—
"Gather up the fragments that remain that nothing be lost."
—

NEW YORK:
BURR PRINTING HOUSE,
18 JACOB STREET.
1888.



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F Norton, John Foote.

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The history of Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, from 1752-1887. By Rev. John F. Norton, A. M. With a genealogical record of many Fitzwilliam families by Joel Whittemore ... New York, Burr printing house, 1888.

xvi, 17-829 p. incl. front. (coat of arms) plates, ports., fold. maps, fold. plan. 23^{cm}.

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1. Fitzwilliam, N. H.—Hist. 2. Fitzwilliam, N. H.—Geneal. I. Whittemore, Joel.

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INTRODUCTION.

EVERY community has its history, of more or less importance, and no people that is wise will leave this to be forgotten or rendered of little value by the uncertainties of tradition.

From time to time, during a period of more than thirty years, the attention of the inhabitants of Fitzwilliam has been called to this subject, for at the close of one of his Historical Lectures which the late Dr. Silas Cummings gave to the people of this place before 1860, he said : " My impression is that we should resolve ourselves into a Committee of the Whole on the matter of a Town History, each report the history of his own family, and choose a Committee to embody the facts, and read them at meetings called expressly for this purpose. This matter of a Town History is important ; ten years ago we had many more materials than we have now, and in ten years more all will be lost."

This project not being deemed feasible, the subject was discussed at various times, both publicly and privately, by persons interested in the work, till in March, 1871, it was brought formally before the Town, when a Committee, consisting of Dr. Silas Cummings and Messrs. Charles Bigelow and Samuel Kendall, was appointed to collect materials for a History. These were all busy men in their several spheres of life, and it could hardly have been expected that they would be able to pursue the matter systematically and reach definite results.

Under such a vote, however encouraging it might be as a beginning, it soon appeared that no substantial progress could be made without a more definite plan and securing more responsibility for the work. Accordingly, at the Town Meeting March, 1882, the Selectmen were instructed to appoint a

Committee of three to prepare a manuscript History of the Town, similar in details to the Histories of Rindge, Peterborough, and Marlborough, and Five Hundred Dollars were appropriated to pay this Committee for their services. Unavoidable difficulties prevented the choice and qualification of such a Committee, and nothing was done till March, 1884, when the subject was again brought before the Town. At this meeting the Town voted to appoint a Committee of three to carry into effect the former vote, and chose Joel Whittemore, of New York, as a member of said Committee, and instructed the Selectmen to complete the number, which was done by the appointment of John M. Parker and Calvin B. Perry. The Committee thus constituted opened negotiations with Rev. John F. Norton, of Natick, Mass., whom they had known while a Pastor in Fitzwilliam from 1868 to 1873, as familiar, to some extent, with historical work, and engaged him to write the History. Later Mr. Whittemore, one of the Committee, assumed the responsibility of collecting and arranging the Genealogical part of the work.

The result of these arrangements is now offered to the inhabitants of Fitzwilliam and such others as from birth, residence, acquaintance, or for any other reason may be interested in the character, condition, or progress of this Town since it began to be settled in 1752.

As to the sources of information open to the historian in this case, what follows should be noted.

Rev. John Sabin, Pastor in Fitzwilliam for more than forty years, gave to the people of this place four Historical Lectures, the first in 1836 and the remaining three in 1842, and these were devoted exclusively to the interests, condition, and progress of this Town, civilly, socially, intellectually, morally, and religiously, during the eighty years that had elapsed since its settlement. These Lectures (in manuscript) have been freely consulted in the progress of this work.

Dr. Silas Cummings left three Historical Lectures of the same general character, two of which he appears to have given to the Fitzwilliam people in 1859 and one in 1873. Some portions of these were made up from extracts from the

ancient records of the Proprietors, of the Town, and of the Church, but in general they were filled with interesting facts concerning the early settlers of the town, their privations, their hardships, character, and progress. Besides these Dr. Cummings collected and noted upon slips of paper or in blank books, in the hurry of his professional life, many anecdotes concerning the first settlers, and detached accounts of many of their families, all of which he doubtless hoped to arrange at his leisure, so that they would aid in the preparation of a Town History. These have been of much use, though the connecting links which kept them together in Dr. Cummings's mind, and would have rendered them of greater service to him, have been entirely lost.

Mr. Charles Bigelow collected a multitude of facts relating to the location of the early settlers, mainly in the southern and western portions of the Town, adding Genealogical records, more or less complete, of the families located.

The Town owes not a little of the value of this History to the industry, zeal, and public spirit of these men, but they had not even commenced the preparation of anything for the press. All the facts collected by them it has been necessary to restate, rearrange, and complete from other sources, to preserve the continuity and harmony of the History. Whenever extracts have been made from the Lectures of Rev. Mr. Sabin and Dr. Cummings, due credit has been given.

The early Pastors of the Church, Rev. Benjamin Brigham and Rev. John Sabin, in addition to a careful entry upon the Church Records of admissions and dismissions, baptisms administered and marriages solemnized, appear to have made a record of deaths not only in cases where they officiated at funerals, but also of all others coming to their knowledge.

Belknap's History of New Hampshire, the great store-house of facts respecting the early history of this State, and Sanborn's, Whiton's, and Barstow's Histories of New Hampshire have rendered not a little aid in this work. To make the Chapter "Fitzwilliam in the Revolutionary War" as complete as possible, much information has been obtained from the ancient Military Rolls and other papers in the office of the

Secretary of State at Concord. Special aid has been received from Volumes 14 and 15 of the New Hampshire Records, recently printed by the State and sent to the several towns and cities.

The old and later Records of the Proprietors, of the Town, and of the Churches have yielded a great amount of information, and the same is true of the Reports of the Selectmen, of the Town Treasurers, the School Committees, and Library Supervisors. The Records of the Military Companies, of the Common School Association, of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Club, of the Temperance Associations, of the Savings Bank, and other organizations have been freely consulted, while the valuable Report of the Committee for preparing Rolls of the Fitzwilliam Soldiers in the Rebellion has been mainly transferred to these pages.

Much has also been obtained from the Massachusetts State Library, the Library of the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Boston Public Library, and the Natick (Mass.) Town Library, while a number of the people of Fitzwilliam have given time and thought to the collection of important facts that have been preserved only in the memories of the aged.

Something has also been gathered from the published Histories of the neighboring towns.

Among those whose aid has been of special service in the preparation of this volume are : The Hon. Secretary of State, Mr. Thompson, at Concord, and Hon. Isaac W. Hammond, who for a number of years has been the Editor of the New Hampshire Records, volumes that reflect much honor upon the State.

We have also been materially assisted by the Gentlemen in charge of the Libraries named above, as well as by Rev. J. H. Temple, Historian of Northfield and Framingham, Mass.; Amos A. Parker, Esq., Capt. Jonathan S. Adams, Milton Chaplin, Esq., Messrs. J. E. and C. C. Carter, Mrs. Selina P. Damon, and Mrs. John Kimball.

Others who have assisted materially will find due credit given them for their aid in connection with the several items they have furnished.

FITZWILLIAM,

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION, PRODUCTIONS, ETC.

Location—Boundaries—Size—Face of the Country—Ledges—Underlying Rocks—Geological Structure—Elevation—Soil—Climate—Agricultural Productions—Fruits—Rhododendrons—Forests—Birds and Wild Animals—Lakes and Ponds—Streams.

OF the five towns in Cheshire County, N. H., that border on Massachusetts, Fitzwilliam is the most eastern but one, and is bounded on the north by Jaffrey and Troy, on the east by Rindge and Jaffrey, on the south by Royalston and Winchendon, in Worcester County, Mass., and on the west by Richmond and Troy, chiefly by the former. On the line that separates Massachusetts and New Hampshire Fitzwilliam borders upon Royalston and Winchendon in the proportion of about three to the former and one to the latter. The northern boundary of Fitzwilliam is not a continuous, direct line, and never has been, the north-east corner of the rhomboid which would naturally have constituted this town having, from the first, been a part of Jaffrey. As originally laid out, about one fifteenth part of what otherwise would have been Fitzwilliam belonged to her neighbor.

The remaining part of the northern boundary, or about three fourths of the whole, was originally a straight line, separating Fitzwilliam from Marlborough; but when, in 1815, the new town of Troy was incorporated, taking portions of its territory from Marlborough, Fitzwilliam, Swanzey, and Richmond, but largely from the two first mentioned, this line became like a

series of steps gradually ascending from the north-west corner toward the north-east.

As originally surveyed and granted, the territory may be considered as designed to constitute a town of six miles square, or thirty-six square miles, with some allowance for ponds and waste lands. The measurements as given in the grant would make the actual size of the town about forty square miles. The early surveys often made generous allowances for ponds and bad lands. In the original survey of Rowley Canada (Rindge), the surveyor made an allowance of ten thousand acres, which was reduced to five thousand acres by the Executive Council ; but even this would make the allowance nearly eight square miles. The shape and boundaries of the township as originally laid out, as well as at present constituted, will be best understood by referring to the maps of the town elsewhere in this volume.

Though lying near mountains of considerable height and commanding a view of grand mountain scenery, Fitzwilliam is not mountainous. But it is very hilly ; indeed, almost its entire surface may be said to be made up of ranges of hills or single elevations, with comparatively narrow intervals between them. The sides of these hills have furnished for four generations good pasturage, while upon the tops of these ranges some good farms may be found with a fair proportion of land suitable for mowing and tillage.

The town is noted for the superabundance of its stones, rocks, boulders, and ledges. Respecting this feature of the town, Rev. John Sabin gives this testimony in the historical lectures delivered by him in 1836 and 1842, the three lectures of 1842 having been rewritten and enlarged from the single lecture of 1836 :

Besides what appears to be so near a solid rock below, the rock and stone abound at the surface ; there is a heavy top-dressing of them. Few travellers for the first time passing the town but will notice and speak of this as the roughest place they have ever seen, and will almost wonder where our stone walls came from, because it must be all are now on the ground that ever could be made there. These are rather frightful to the stranger, but peaceable things let alone. And the fact is, as

we become acquainted with them they lose much of the frightful. It is seldom you hear a piece of land spoken against here because it is **rocky**. And really the land does not produce fewer or smaller trees or less grass for the rocks. Much use is made of them, and not every man will allow you to go on his farm and take them away, especially the best of them. And young men who go out from this to look them a situation are very apt to name the want of stone as an objection.

There are many towns in New England that are popularly regarded as having a great superabundance of rocks and stones, and as chiefly remarkable for these, and Fitzwilliam is doubtless one of them ; but the present generation has learned to regard its boulders and ledges as anything but a nuisance, as will be seen when the industries of the town shall be considered. There is a mine of wealth in these.

Over a large part of Fitzwilliam there is found, at no great depth in digging wells, an almost solid rock. This is generally of a somewhat finer grain, though of a similar character to the rocks and boulders on the surface of the ground. Nearly all these rocks are granitic. Many of them are unfit for monumental or ornamental work, while nearly all over the town numerous ledges and boulders are found which afford the best material for such purposes. Generally the underlying rock is reached at a greater depth in the valleys than on the tops and sides of the hills, but it seems to extend under nearly the whole territory and to present on its upper surface something like the variations of hill and valley now visible. The water obtained from wells sunk into this rock is generally hard rather than soft, but is sweet and healthful for drink and all domestic uses.

These statements will show the reason why the attempt to obtain water by what are called "driven wells" (that have been found so serviceable in many parts of the country) has been unsuccessful in Fitzwilliam. Upon the sides of the hills springs of the purest water are found in considerable number, and this is conveyed to many of the dwellings, to the great comfort and convenience of the people.

The geological structure of this entire region has been so often described and is so well understood that it need not be

enlarged upon in this connection. Rev. Mr. Sabin says of Fitzwilliam that

it appears to be a spur of Monadnock, lower, but much of it of like material. It looks as though at some time, either at that of the Flood or by some volcanic eruption, there has been hereabout an awful convulsion and struggle of nature. Of this the mountain itself stands as the more prominent witness.

This town is elevated above most of the adjoining territory, as will be seen from the statistics that follow. The figures give, in feet, the altitude above the level of the sea at mean tide-water :

Fitzwilliam, at hotels (barometric).....	1150.
Jaffrey Centre “	1057.
Richmond “	1080.
Winchester “	400.
Winchendon, Mass., measurement by levelling...	992.
East Jaffrey “ “ “ ..	1032.
Troy “ “ “ ..	1002.
Marlborough “ “ “ ..	789.
Keene “ “ “ ..	479.
Altitude at points on the Cheshire Railroad,	
State Line Station.....	898.
Collins Pond, water, 1062 ; track.....	1067.
Fitzwilliam Station.....	1063.
“ Summit.....	1151.
Rockwood Pond (water).....	1112.

The highest elevation in Fitzwilliam is West Hill, sometimes called Little Monadnock, about sixteen hundred feet. Then follows the Pinnacle, fourteen hundred feet. Gap Mountain is about sixteen hundred feet in height, but both summits are in Troy.

SOIL.

This cannot be said to be naturally rich, like the soil in large portions of the valley of the Connecticut River, and yet it is strong, as the heavy forests which covered this territory one hundred and fifty years ago gave ample testimony. When

the stones and rocks have been so far removed that the soil is fairly open to cultivation, very good crops of grass, corn, and potatoes are raised. Still, owing to the great labor and expense involved in clearing the land, agriculture is not carried on as extensively or profitably as in some of the other towns in the southern part of Cheshire County ; while it is very plain that in considerable portions of the town the land is more valuable for the growth of wood and timber than for any other purpose. Trees here increase in size rapidly, and what may be called the waste lands of the town will doubtless soon have a value attached to them that the present generation can hardly appreciate.

CLIMATE.

A town as elevated as Fitzwilliam and in as high a latitude (this being about $42^{\circ} 50'$ north) must have a climate of considerable severity in the winter season. Throughout the entire region about Mount Monadnock the snow usually falls to a great depth, and is often driven into deep drifts by the heavy winds that prevail. Fitzwilliam is like the adjoining towns in this respect, as the large bills for breaking out the roads after severe snow-storms attest. But though the winters are far from mild, and often tax the patience and strength of the aged and feeble, there is much that is commonly called "steady cold weather," and this is not in any way detrimental to health. The mercury often sinks low, but not as low as it frequently does in the vicinity of Boston. Very cold days sometimes occur, but this is true all over New England, and more notably still in the North-west States and Territories. The compiler of these pages well remembers the cold day of the winter of 1871-72. It was March 13th ; the sky was overcast, the wind from the north-west blew a hurricane, and at the warmest hour of the day the glass indicated from 12° to 16° below zero. In Keene the high school dispensed with its afternoon session, so dangerous was exposure to the blast. But in nature, as in much else, disadvantages are not without their compensations. Late frosts in the spring may occasionally hinder planting and injure the springing crops in Fitz-

william, but early frosts in the autumn, which are so destructive often in what are deemed the best localities in New England, rarely check the growth of vegetation in this town. Sometimes a heavy frost that will occasion much damage in the lower towns, even as far south as the central portions of Connecticut, will not injure the growing crops in Fitzwilliam. In summer the climate is thoroughly enjoyable, for though the heat at noon may be called oppressive, there is a cleanness and clearness in the air that make breathing a luxury, while the breezes of the morning and evening greatly refresh the physical system.

That the climate of this town has been healthy from the first settlement of it the bills of mortality, which will be noticed hereafter, give the most conclusive testimony.

PRODUCTIONS.

Formerly, as was true in the adjoining towns, flax was raised in considerable quantities, all of which was used in the manufacture of clothing. Corn, rye, oats, barley, and potatoes are the crops chiefly raised at the present time, but these are not produced as extensively as they were fifty years ago, owing chiefly to the more pressing demand for labor in other and more remunerative industries.

That the fertility of the soil has been largely exhausted (which is a complaint that comes up to us from some of the adjoining towns) would hardly be a truthful statement, for the decrease in the agricultural products of Fitzwilliam is easily accounted for by the increased demand for manual labor in other and more inviting occupations. A Fitzwilliam farmer once told the writer that every bushel of corn which he raised cost him one dollar and a half at ordinary wages, when he could purchase the same quantity for one half of the money ; but he plainly omitted some important elements in his calculations, such as the improvement of his field for a crop of grass, the fodder for his cattle from the stalks of the corn, and the loads of turnips and pumpkins that the corn land yielded. Fitzwilliam, in common with the neighboring towns, has good

pastures, in which cattle from Central Massachusetts fatten during the summer and autumn.

The wild small fruits, such as the strawberry, the blueberry, the blackberry, and the raspberry are nowhere more abundant, and seldom elsewhere have as rich a flavor.

THE RHODODENDRON. (*The Rose-tree.*)

This remarkable flowering shrub (which sometimes attains to the height and size of a small tree) is cultivated very largely in the vicinity of Boston, notably by Mr. H. H. Hunnewell in his beautiful gardens in Wellesley, that are so conspicuous across Waban Lake from Wellesley College. By careful cultivation the rhododendron is there brought to wonderful perfection; and its blossoms, which are very large, rival the famous azaleas of the same locality in the variety and exquisite delicacy of their color.

About two miles north-west from the centre of Fitzwilliam, on the old Patch Place, is a locality where the rhododendron is found in its natural state. Once this tract must have embraced some acres, and even now, after not a little of the land has been partially cleared up, the shrub is very abundant. As it grows in the edge of the thick forest, its clusters of leaves and beautiful blossoms may be seen among the branches of the trees twenty or even thirty feet from the ground, suggesting a vine rather than a shrub.

The blossoms, which are very large, are, in color, of a pearly white, while the long leaves of the shrub are noted for their wonderful gloss. This locality is visited annually by many tourists and summer residents that pass two or three months of the year in Fitzwilliam and the towns adjoining. So far as is known, the wild rhododendron is found at no other place in New Hampshire, and in but two or three localities in New England.

The mountain laurel attains great perfection in Fitzwilliam, especially in the southern part of the town. When this shrub is in full bloom, the scene is a gorgeous one in the vicinity of the South Pond.

FORESTS.

These were very heavy when the town was opened for settlement, and the work of clearing the land for tillage was extremely exhausting. A hill in the township over which a fire had spread twenty or thirty years before the first settlers came, was seized upon by them for their earliest farming operations, because the trees on it were young and comparatively small. The white pine was a noble tree in all this region one hundred and fifty years ago, and all of sufficient size were expressly reserved "for His Majesty's navy," in the charter stipulations of this town. Oaks, beeches, birches, ashes, and especially maples, both the rock and the white, abound. Less maple sugar is made than formerly, as the ancient maple orchards have been largely removed for timber and fire-wood.

Of the common fruit trees, the apple is almost the only one that secures general confidence for a long term of years. The pear does tolerably well in some localities ; the peach is disappointing. The earlier (and these are often the choicest) kinds of grapes can doubtless be cultivated with success in Fitzwilliam. The season is too short for the Isabella and other late varieties, but the Hartford prolific, and, better still, a number of Rogers seedlings will doubtless ripen here nearly as well as in the other lower towns of New Hampshire.

BIRDS AND WILD ANIMALS.

Throughout the entire Monadnock region the same varieties of these are found, and, with the exception of some of the latter, the kinds have not changed during the last one hundred and fifty years. Originally the deer, the bear, the wolf, and the catamount were found here in considerable numbers. The three last mentioned were a source of constant terror and of considerable loss to the early settlers, as will be seen in the sequel. These ferocious beasts found a safe retreat, for a long time, among the rocks and cliffs of Monadnock ; but as the population increased and the forests were removed about the base and upon the sides of the mountain, their retreats were no longer secure, and they gradually disappeared. Probably none now exist in this region.

LAKES AND STREAMS.

Fitzwilliam has, according to Farmer's *New Hampshire Gazetteer*, four natural ponds :

South Pond, which, as its name indicates, lies in the southern part of the town, is a large and handsome sheet of water nearly a mile in length and about one third of a mile in its greatest breadth. Forests nearly encircle it, and it furnishes at the outlet good water-power for the mills at Howeville. The view of the pond and its surroundings, taken from the bridge at its outlet, showing the picturesque sheet of water embowered among the hills, with the grand old Monadnock towering over all in the distance, is one of surpassing beauty.

Farther east, and near the south-east corner of the town, lies another large and attractive sheet of water called *Sip Pond*, a name given it early in the history of the town, from Scipio Jawhaw. Sip was a negro who lived near the pond, and was possibly a runaway or freed slave. His wife is said to have been an Indian, and from her this sheet of water was sometimes called Squaw Pond. This pond was famous early for its uncommon supply of large and fat pickerel.

Rockwood Pond, called at first Foster Pond, lies in the north-west part of the town, and its outlet furnishes the valuable water-power in the village of Troy. Various kinds of fish abound in it, particularly the horned pout, which when skinned and fried furnishes a wholesome and welcome dish for the table.

Collins Pond is the fourth of the natural ponds, and is smaller than either of those already mentioned. To these may be added as a natural pond the one in Troy village, which was within the original limits of Fitzwilliam.

There are several artificial ponds or mill reservoirs of considerable size, among which may be mentioned Bowker Pond, Meadow Pond, and the Scott Reservoir.

It will be observed that Fitzwilliam has not as many lakes or large ponds as some of the adjoining towns, notably Rindge and Jaffrey, for Rindge has thirteen and Jaffrey more than half as many.

As the streams of Fitzwilliam generally rise in the town and run out of it, it cannot be expected that any of them will be large. As a matter of fact, all are small. The larger ones are Scott or Priest Brook, in the eastern part of the town, and Camp or Chaplin Brook, in the south-west part. The larger ponds mentioned discharge a body of water of considerable size, but in each case the course of these streams in Fitzwilliam is short, and they soon reach the adjoining towns.

Nearly or quite all the brooks were originally well stocked with fish, but these have largely disappeared, as the streams have been improved for manufacturing purposes.

The drainage of the town is all into the Connecticut River. The three streams that flow into Massachusetts continue southward and make three branches of Miller's River, entering the Connecticut at Montague. These streams receive the water of all the south and east parts of the town, comprising about three fourths of the entire area of the original township. The streams from the north and north-west parts of the town unite with the south branch of the Ashuelot, and enter the Connecticut in Hinsdale.

A semicircle drawn from West Hill through the Pinnacle to Gap Mountain defines the water-shed of the town with sufficient accuracy.

CHAPTER II.

THE INDIANS OF SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Indian Names—The Five Great Tribes of New England—Numbers—Character and Habits—Sales of Land—Removal—Remains—Confirmatory Statements.

THE authorities chiefly consulted in preparing this chapter are :

1. Penhallow (Samuel), *The History of the Wars with the Eastern Indians*. Boston : Printed by T. Fleet for S. Gerish, at the lower end of Cornhill, and D. Henchman, over against the Brick Meeting-House in Cornhill, 1726. The invaluable diary of this author was destroyed by the great fire at Portsmouth, N. H., December, 1805. Mr. Penhallow was born in England, but came to America in 1686. The "Society for Propagating the Gospel among the Indians" offered him twenty pounds sterling a year, for three years, if he would acquire a knowledge of the Indian language, and sixty pounds annually during life if he would become a preacher to the Indians. The latter offer he declined, as he became a successful Portsmouth merchant and official of New Hampshire, dying December, 1726. His history is very rare in its original form, but has been wisely reprinted by private enterprise, and also in its collections by the New Hampshire Historical Society.

2. Belknap's *History of New Hampshire*, two volumes, 1784 and 1791. The great storehouse of knowledge upon the early history of this State. The edition of Farmer, Secretary of the New Hampshire Historical Society, has very valuable notes.

3. *New Hampshire Historical Collections*, edited by Rev. Dr. N. Bouton.

4. *New Hampshire Provincial Papers*.

5. Histories of New Hampshire, by Barstow, Sanborn, and Whiton.

6. History of Northfield, Mass., by Rev. J. H. Temple and Mr. George Sheldon, 1875. A work of great merit, and almost the only recent town history that throws light upon the Indians of Southern New Hampshire.

7. Groton (Mass.) During the Indian Wars, by Samuel A. Green, M.D., Librarian of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

8. Massachusetts Records.

9. Old Indian Chronicles, published after the war with King Philip.

10. Plymouth (Mass.) Records.

11. Drake's American Biography.

ORTHOGRAPHY OF INDIAN NAMES.

This seems to be mostly mechanical, and no uniformity has been observed by different writers. Professor Sanborn says that there are more than forty different modes of spelling the name of the lake Winnepesaukee, which means "the beautiful water in the high place." Hardly any two persons would use the same letters in spelling a word pronounced by an Indian.

Hawaii, the name of the largest of the Sandwich Islands, was spelled Owyhee fifty years ago. On an ancient survey (1774) of the Nipmuck or Nepent Indian country, Monadnock is spelled Menadnock. See "Old Indian Chronicles."

To furnish a brief sketch of the Indians that roamed over rather than inhabited the region about Mount Monadnock from one hundred and fifty to two hundred years ago is all that will be here attempted.

Rev. J. H. Temple, of Framingham, Mass., who has studied the Indian history most carefully, says, in a private letter to the writer, that "in all the published works relative to the history of the Indians of New England, you will find a generality and indefiniteness that is perplexing. The contemporary writers say so much that you know they could have said much

more, and this much more is just what you want to find out." This is the experience of all who undertake to investigate this matter.

When the first white settlers arrived in New England it was inhabited by five great tribes or divisions of Indians.

1. The Pequots, who dwelt in Connecticut.
2. The Narragansetts, that had their abode in Rhode Island.
3. The Pawnannankitts, of Nantucket and the adjacent islands.
4. The Massachusetts, that inhabited the State named for them; and
5. The Pautucketts, of New Hampshire and Maine.

We are chiefly concerned in this history with the division last mentioned. This was divided into various tribes, the most important of which was the Pennacooks, who had their home on the Merrimac, in the vicinity of Concord. The Pennacook Lake perpetuates their name. Many of the smaller tribes of this region were subordinate to the Pennacooks, and among them, according to Farmer, were the four tribes in the valley of the Connecticut River, located north of Springfield, Mass., and these were the tribes that appear to have been more or less concerned in the destructive attacks upon the settlements in the western part of Cheshire County.

Among the other subordinate tribes inhabiting Eastern New Hampshire and South-western Maine were the Amoskeaks, who, as tradition informs us, had their permanent quarters where the village of Amoskeag now stands, just north of Manchester above the Amoskeag Falls. These falls were the favorite resort of the Indians of all the region, because the salmon-fishery there was regarded as the best in the territory of New Hampshire.

NOTE ON THE MOHAWKS.

This powerful tribe dwelt on the Mohawk River and upper Hudson in New York, but was a terror to the Indians in the Connecticut Valley, and even as far east as the Merrimac. The name of these Indians, Mohogs, which signifies men-eaters, from moho, to eat, became at length Mohawks. (Eliot's Key.) The following petition tells its own story. Hogkins was one of the sachems of the Pennacooks.

Honor Governor my friend. May 15, 1685.

You my friend I desire your worship and your power, because I hope you can do som great matters this one. I am poor and naked and I have no men at my place because I afraid allwayes Mohogs he will kill me every day and night. If your worship when please pray help me you no let Mohogs kill me at my place in Malamake river called Panukkog and Nattukkog, I will submit your worship and your power. And now I want powder and such alminishon, shott and guns, because I have forth at my hom and plant there.

This is all Indian hand, but pray do not consider your humble servant
John Hogkins.

Witnessed by fourteen Indians, all but one of whom signed by marks.

The great chief of the Pennacooks was Passaconaway. Belknap gives this account of him :

He excelled the other sachems in sagacity, duplicity, and moderation ; but his principal qualification was his skill in some of the secret operations of nature, which gave him the reputation of a sorcerer and extended his fame and influence among all the neighboring tribes. They believed that it was in his power to make water burn and trees dance, and to metamorphose himself into flame ; that in winter he could raise a green leaf from the ashes of a dry one, and a living serpent from the skin of one that was dead.

Passaconaway was more friendly to the settlers than his subordinate sachems generally ; and it is added that at a great dance and feast, being an old man, he made

his farewell speech to his children and people ; in which, as a dying man, he warned them to take heed how they quarrelled with their English neighbors ; for though they might do them some damage, yet it would prove the means of their own destruction. He told them that he had been a bitter enemy of the English, and by the arts of sorcery had tried his utmost to hinder their settlements and increase, but could by no means succeed.

His son and successor, Wonolanset, seems to have inherited his father's caution and sagacity, for later, when a general Indian war broke out, he led his people into a region quite remote from the scene of action that they might not be involved in the conflict. At a later period still Wonolanset is said to have heard Eliot preach to the Indians, and to have professed conversion to Christianity.

In F. G. Drake's "Biography of Distinguished Americans," it is asserted that Passaconaway invited Eliot to take up his abode near the Pennacooks, that he and his people "might be taught the Christian religion," as he had avowed his belief in God.

Such was the great chief that for a long time held sway about Monadnock.*

NUMBERS OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE INDIANS.

It is impossible to arrive at any definite conclusions upon this matter. They doubtless seemed to the whites vastly more numerous than they actually were. In their attacks upon the settlements they never appeared upon the open field in a body, but would shoot down their victims from behind trees and rocks; and as the firing came from many quarters at the same moment, a few dozen warriors would be magnified into thousands in popular estimation. The four tribes in the Connecticut Valley alluded to above did not probably exceed twelve hundred all told, with two hundred braves, while the early settlers were establishing themselves in Keene, Walpole, Winchester, and Hinsdale. And it is nearly certain that the entire Indian population of Central and Southern New Hampshire in the year 1700 did not exceed four thousand, of whom possibly six hundred were warriors.

CHARACTER AND HABITS OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE INDIANS.

With regard to the Indian character in general, this must be said: while the apostles to the Indians, Eliot and the Mayhews, found those with whom they dealt often tractable and, to a considerable extent, kind, generous, and faithful, the general verdict of the settlers was that they were naturally deceitful, treacherous, and cruel to the last degree. Penhallow, in his introduction to "The History of the Indian Wars," speaks of the Indians "as implacable in their revenge as they are terrible in the execution of it; and will convey it down to the third and fourth generation. No courtesy will ever oblige

* The Concord Railroad Company perpetuates the memory of these ancient Indian chiefs by giving their names to some of their engines.

them to gratitude ; for their greatest benefactors have frequently fallen victims to their fury."

And almost every one of the one hundred and forty broad pages of this old history is simply a harrowing record of Indian atrocities. Of their treachery, the same author assures us that at the conclusion of a treaty with them in 1703, when volleys were to be fired on both sides to ratify it, and the English were asked (as they supposed by way of compliment) to fire first, which they readily did, it was soon learned that the guns of the Indians were charged with bullets as well as powder.

When, in 1759, the colonists suddenly attacked the Arosaguntacook or St. Francis Indians in Canada and defeated them, among other things found in the settlement were six or seven hundred English scalps suspended on poles, the trophies of their barbarous warfare. And for forty years after 1703, wherever settlements were made in New Hampshire the Indians, incited by the French, were ready to fall upon them at the most unexpected moment, as when the people were at church or attending a wedding. Penhallow's sickening record gives the names and particulars of the capture, torture, and murder in cold blood of hundreds during this period, as well as of the fearful sufferings that the prisoners of both sexes experienced while wading through the deep snows to Canada and during their captivity, before redemption or death put an end to their miseries. War could be no sooner proclaimed between France and England than the Indians seemed to become acquainted with the fact, as it were, instinctively, when the signal would be at once given to renew the work of pillage, burning, and butchery.

But were the Indians never provoked by double-dealing, perfidy, and cruelty on the part of the whites? In 1703 we find the Colonial Government offering a bounty of forty pounds sterling for every Indian scalp that might be brought in ; and Penhallow tells us that a Captain Tyng was the first to avail himself of the privilege by securing two hundred pounds for five scalps, which he easily obtained by a quiet attack upon his victims in the depth of winter. From the "New Hampshire Provincial Papers" we learn that September 6th,

1676, there was a sham fight with two hundred refugee Indians at Dover, when the Indians were suddenly seized. Some of them were soon set at liberty, but many of them were sent to Boston, where five or six were hung for crimes which they had previously committed, while others were sold as slaves. The spirit of kindness and conciliation is not apparent in such transactions.

From the "Massachusetts Records" of 1676-77 we learn that a day was set apart for public thanksgiving because, among other things of moment, "there now scarce remains a name or family of them (the Indians) but are either slayne, captivated, or fled." Doubtless the wrong involved in the fearful conflicts and losses of those days is not to be wholly charged to the Indians.

THEIR HABITS.

When not engaged in war they cultivated to some extent the soil, especially the rich lands upon the banks of the streams and rivers, though it must be said that the squaws seem to have done this work generally. Sometimes ten or fifteen acres of maize could be found in one piece upon the banks of the Connecticut. To keep the surplus for winter use or for a time of famine they built granaries or underground storehouses from five to fifteen feet in diameter, and these they sometimes lined with clay. White visitors occasionally applied the term "wigwams" to these granaries, but usually this was the name of their dwellings. These were huts, the best of which contained few if any of the conveniences and comforts of civilized life. After the coming of the white men they raised also large quantities of beans and squashes, but always depended largely for food upon hunting and fishing. Nuts also of various kinds were collected by them and stored for food. Kettles for boiling they made from soapstone. Except in extreme cases they seem to have had a good supply of food. In their domestic life they were like the wild Indians of the North-west at the present time. The squaws were the slaves of the braves, and all the degradation and hardships of savage life were their portion. In war the bow and arrow, the club,

the spear pointed with a sharp stone, and a hatchet or tomahawk made from the same material furnished their offensive and defensive weapons, but early they manifested a purpose to acquire fire-arms if possible. Before 1688 Baron Castine, a French nobleman, had gone among the Indians east of the Penobscot and made a home with them, filling his house with Indian women. This infamous man furnished muskets to the Indians, and from that time forth they became doubly formidable in warfare. One or two other renegade whites were proved guilty of the same crime against law and humanity, and severely punished. As early as 1626 the settlers at Dover found that the Indians had muskets, and upon investigation it appeared that one Thomas Morton, the ringleader of a company of outlaws whose headquarters were at Braintree, Mass., had sold guns and ammunition to the neighboring Indians. He was at once seized and sent a prisoner to England. In 1631 the General Court ordered "Richard Hopkins to be severely whipped and branded with a hot iron upon one of his cheeks for selling guns, powder, and shot to the Indians."

THE INDIAN CLAIMS TO THE LAND OF THE NEW WORLD.

If a long and undisputed occupancy can give a valid title to land, they certainly owned this territory. A foreign king, three thousand miles away, who had never set foot upon these lands had no just claim to them; but he gave them away or permitted the Council of Plymouth in England to dispose of them just as if they had been inherited or obtained by fair purchase.

It is to the credit of the settlers generally that they were not satisfied with the principles and acts of their kings and councils in this respect. The *Old Indian Chronicle* asserts that "any one will find, by an examination of all the public records of New England, that in no instance was the land taken from the Indians without their consent and without what was then considered a fair compensation." "However small the compensation, it was as a general thing all the land was worth." And Professor Sanborn, in his "History of New Hampshire," says, "The New England colonists did generally pur-

chase their lands from the Indians. They paid but small sums, and in articles of but little value to themselves, yet the Indians prized them highly ; and they alone had a right to judge of the worth of their territory and of the price of the goods given in exchange for it. They sold willingly, and received their pay with joy." But the same author adds that "the settlers of New Hampshire were perhaps less careful than others to extinguish the Indian claim, because chartered companies and royal proprietors assumed the ownership of the soil." In the same line of testimony, the Hon. Charles Bell said before the New Hampshire Historical Society, a few years ago, "There is abundant evidence still surviving to show that every rood of land occupied by the white men for a century after they sat down at Piscataquack was fairly purchased from the Indian proprietors, and honestly paid for."

And in support of these and similar assertions, we have in the appendix of Belknap, Vol. I., the copy of a deed given in 1629 to John Wheelwright and others of Massachusetts Bay, "to them, their heirs and assigns forever," of nearly all the south-eastern part of New Hampshire, "twenty English miles into the woods," with various conditions and provisos ; and "for a competent valuation in goods already received, in coats, shirts, and kettles ;" the chief Sagamore and his successors forever to receive, if lawfully demanded, "one coat of trucking cloth a year" for each township laid out within said tract of land, while the said Wheelwright is to have from the grantors "two bushels of Indian corn each year," etc.

"In witness whereof," etc. Signed by Passaconaway, Runaawitt, Wahangnonawitt, and Rowls, each with his mark and seal, in the presence of two Indians and two whites.

We are obviously unable to determine the real value of the "shirts, coats, and kettles" "already received," but this contract has the features of honest business rather than of robbery.

And yet it is very plain that Sir Ferdinando Gorges and Captain John Mason (to whose great ambition and most persistent efforts for securing wealth and renown out of the lands in Southern New Hampshire, attention will be directed in

- 1998: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 11, 1965–1976.
- , 2000: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 13, 1965–1976.
- , 2001: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 14, 1965–1976.
- , 2002: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 15, 1965–1976.
- , 2003: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 16, 1965–1976.
- , 2004: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 17, 1965–1976.
- , 2005: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 18, 1965–1976.
- , 2006: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 19, 1965–1976.
- , 2007: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 20, 1965–1976.
- , 2008: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 21, 1965–1976.
- , 2009: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 22, 1965–1976.
- , 2010: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 23, 1965–1976.
- , 2011: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 24, 1965–1976.
- , 2012: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 25, 1965–1976.
- , 2013: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 26, 1965–1976.
- , 2014: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 27, 1965–1976.
- , 2015: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 28, 1965–1976.
- , 2016: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 29, 1965–1976.
- , 2017: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 30, 1965–1976.
- , 2018: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 31, 1965–1976.
- , 2019: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 32, 1965–1976.
- , 2020: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 33, 1965–1976.
- , 2021: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 34, 1965–1976.
- , 2022: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 35, 1965–1976.
- , 2023: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 36, 1965–1976.
- , 2024: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 37, 1965–1976.
- , 2025: The impact of the 1997/98 El Niño on the Indian monsoon. *Journal of Climate*, 38, 1965–1976.

Chapter IV.) did not make the least effort to satisfy the claims of the Indians to the large territory which they professed to own. And the probability is that the Indian title to the lands about Monadnock was never extinguished in any way by those who purchased and settled this territory between 1740 and 1775; for before this period the great chiefs of the Pennacooks had died, and the tribes subordinate to them had been largely broken up and dispersed.

THE REMOVAL OF THE INDIANS FROM THIS TERRITORY.

Their numbers and power as tribes seem to have waned rapidly after the close of the sixteenth century. Contact with the whites had not generally improved their physical or moral condition. Fewer children were born to them, and they lost, in a great measure, their ambition. Many of their braves had perished in the wars, and those that survived were discouraged. Gradually the young men and then whole families and tribes withdrew from all contact with civilization. Some went to the East and North-east, and cast in their lot with their old enemies, the Tarrateens; but the larger part appear to have gone North and joined the Indians on the St. Francis in Canada. But wherever they went they soon lost all tribal distinctions, and practically disappeared from the face of the earth. A few came annually, for a number of years, to hunt about the old mountain and fish in our lakes and streams, but soon returned to Canada or Eastern Maine.

How late the Indians were found roaming over Fitzwilliam it is impossible to say. In 1754, or nearly three years after Monadnock No. 4 was sold to Roland Cotton and others, it was considered hazardous to commence building a meeting-house in Monadnock No. 1 or Rindge, because Indian attacks were feared (see "History of Rindge," p. 63); while later than that murders were committed by the Indians in Walpole, Keene, and Hinsdale.

INDIAN REMAINS.

There is no evidence that what is now Fitzwilliam was ever a favorite resort for the Indians, like Hinsdale and Keene, but

we are assured that for a considerable time after its settlement and incorporation as a town the remains of Indian wigwams were found in the southern part of it, not far from the line that separates New Hampshire from Massachusetts.

Rev. John Sabin is our authority for the following statement, which is taken from one of his lectures :

When Mr. Wait dug his cellar, in the south part of the town, a few years ago, he found it thickly laid over, at not more than a suitable distance from each other, with what he supposed once graves, bodies deposited there. He was satisfied from the lightness of the earth, the color, the smell, and I should think he found something like hair, that human bodies had, at some remote period, been laid there and laid in an orderly manner. It may be as hard to account for them, perhaps, as for the mounds at the west. It may more seem than in any other way of which we know, that the Aborigines, at some period, had their burying-place there, and that makes it more probable that they inhabited not very far distant.

Upon the banks of Camp Brook, near the house where John Camp lived eighty or ninety years ago, the remains of at least two Indian wigwams were found and some Indian utensils. And the same was true of the Lot 1 of the tenth range, in School District No. 11, where Joshua Twitchell built a log-house and lived for a number of years.

A manuscript history of School District No. 11, written many years since, and carefully preserved by Mr. D. Francis White, of that district, informs us that the Indians who visited that part of the town before its settlement were few in number, and that these took up their abode near the large brook which runs through the district, drawn hither plainly by the good fishing which the brook afforded. "My grandfather," says the writer, "told me that the remains of two of their huts or wigwams were to be seen long after his remembrance, one on the side of the hill near where Benjamin Haywood's house now stands, the other on the east side of the brook, on land owned by Benjamin Fisk. The cellar that was dug into the hillside many years ago by the Indians is now plain to be seen."

In confirmation of the opinion expressed in this chapter that

the region about Mount Monadnock was a favorite resort of roving Indians and Indian families during a part of each season, the testimony is abundant. Of this two items only have been selected, and the details of both are set forth in the volume, "Groton (Mass.) in the Indian Wars," by Samuel A. Green, M.D. This book is a very valuable contribution to our Indian history. Groton was one of the frontier towns of Massachusetts for a considerable period near the close of the seventeenth century, and every precaution against the sudden and repeated incursions of the Indians was not only required by law, but was found by the inhabitants to be an imperious necessity.

February 16th, 1706, a court-martial was held in that town, by the order of Governor Dudley, for the trial of Lieutenant Seth Wyman, who was charged with the crime of bringing a false report of "the discovery of the Indian Enemy near Monadnock on the 6th instant, and for their return home in a mutinous, disorderly manner without endeavors after a sufficient discovery." The proceedings of this court-martial would occupy too much space for insertion here, but the facts in the case seem to have been as follows : Lieutenant Wyman commanded a small company of men, who were sent out to watch the Indians about the base of Monadnock, that, in case of danger, they might give the alarm to the exposed inhabitants of the frontier towns of Massachusetts ; and having, as he supposed, if his scouts were truthful, discovered the presence of a large body of advancing savages, he ordered a retreat toward their homes, which retreat, through fright, was conducted in a disorderly manner.

The testimony of the accused officer was as follows :

On the 6th instant on our incamping on Son about an hour high wee sent out Two Scouts, of four men each ; one to march on the left wing ; the other on the Right ; to march about a mile and a half right out upon discovery from the Noyse of our Hatchetts.

He farther saith that after they had bin upon the scout about an hour, that he Saw both Scouts returning together, running toward our Camp as men affrightened, and called to me at a distance to put out our fires for they had discover'd a Body of the Enemy. Then Corp' Tarbol coming up to me told me that he had discover'd the Enemy ; the first of their

Camps that he discover'd, He said the Noyse of their Hatchetts, were as bigg as our Company, and so reached halfe a mile.

The other part of our Scout told me they had discover'd the Track of Doggs which they Judg'd to be Twenty or Thirty.

Corporal Tarbol, who commanded one company of the scouts, testified that they "saw a smoak," and upon approaching it "heard a great discourse of men which I took to be Indians and French," and upon retreating he said he met the other scout, who reported having seen "a Track of twenty or Thirty Doggs, which they Judg'd to be the Enemyes Doggs," etc. The scouts seem to have been divided in opinion about the presence of the dogs, some supposing the tracks were made by a female wolf with her whelps ; but when they had compared notes the fright became general, and nothing Wyman could do could keep the men together.

This officer seems to have been brave enough, but he was in a region where Indian surprises were to be expected, and his men failed him.*

The second item alluded to is as follows : "Governor Saltonstall, of Connecticut, writes from New London, under date of July 23d, 1724, that the friendly Indians of that neighborhood seem inclined to hunt for scalps around Monadnock, and the farther side of Dunstable and Groton." (Massachusetts Archives.)

"This was owing," says Dr. Green, "to an offer made about this time (already alluded to in this chapter) by the governments of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, of a bounty of forty pounds for every Indian's scalp that should be taken and shown to the proper authorities. This expedient stimulated volunteers to scour the wilderness for the purpose of hunting Indians ; and Captain John Lovewell, of Dunstable, organized a company, which soon became famous."

This Captain Lovewell seems to have led at least two expeditions against the Indians before he started out upon the one which proved so disastrous to himself and nearly all his command on the borders of Lovewell's Pond, near Fryeburg, Me.

* According to the best information relative to this matter, the scene of this fright was in the south-east part of Fitzwilliam, or in the neighboring town of Rindge.

After one of these forays he entered Dover, N. H., in triumph, bearing stretched on hoops ten Indian scalps. These he took to Boston, and obtained the large bounties offered by the Massachusetts government.

The region about Monadnock was plainly regarded as very favorable for such expeditions because no large company of Indian warriors would there be encountered. A roaming savage with his squaw could be shot down without great personal peril.

CHAPTER III.

THE MONADNOCK REGION IN 1740—THE OLD MILITARY ROAD.

Appearance of the Country—Old Road.

THE towns that cluster around the base of this mountain, of which Fitzwilliam is one, have in some respects a peculiar history. The size and isolation of the mountain and its distance from any other lofty elevations with which to compare it make this entire region unlike any other in New England, while, as we shall see in the next chapter of this history, the early negotiations for the sale, purchase, and settlement of these towns had many singular features.

As a matter of course, that which gives character to this entire region of country is the grand old mountain itself. The height of this is not so remarkable, as its loftiest peak is only three thousand one hundred and eighty-six feet above the level of the sea, and many of the peaks in Northern New Hampshire have a greater altitude. But it stands out alone, the one great mountain of Southern New Hampshire and of the north-eastern and northern central parts of Massachusetts, while the beauty and grandeur of its outlines never fail to rivet the attention and move the sensibilities of the beholder. From an early period it was styled "the Grand Monadnock," and this distinctive name is plainly of Indian origin.

When this part of New Hampshire was opened for settlement the entire mountain, with the exception of one comparatively unimportant peak, is said to have been covered with trees similar to those that now cover the lower portions of it, though, of course, much smaller, and stunted to a much greater degree as the top was approached. This forest seems to have been largely prostrated by a heavy gale near the beginning of the present century, and at a later period wholly

consumed by fire. Then the rains and melting snows carried forward the process of denudation rapidly, while the winds aided in the work, till from the upper portions of the mountain nearly all the soil that had been accumulating for centuries disappeared, leaving the great mass of coarse rock bare as we see it to-day.

These statements come to us by tradition mostly, but there is no reason to question their substantial truth.

The "Bald Peaks" on the mountain (as the naked spot before alluded to is said to have been called) doubtless presented to the early explorers the only place from which an uninterrupted view could have been obtained, and seen from this, the entire region, with the exception of some small natural meadows and the ponds, was one immense forest. From that elevation the sharp and long hills, which are so prominent a feature in all these towns, disappeared and the beholder looked out upon what seemed to be a level country, a plain extending as far as the eye could reach. The explorers and settlers of some of the towns of Northern Massachusetts, thirty or forty miles south of us, were similarly deceived as they surveyed the region from the summit of Wachusett, and fondly supposed they were locating their farms and building their log houses upon a great plain, with a soil as deep, rich, and easily worked as is that which attracted the pioneers in the valley of the Connecticut River.

Such was the appearance of these rugged towns about Monadnock in 1740. The country seemed to be one great and fertile plain, interspersed with the many shining lakes that are now so prominent a feature of the landscape, with the little threads of brooks and larger streams running in various directions. Then as now in all the surrounding country the grand feature of the whole was the massive and majestic mountain. This, though legally belonging to our neighbors, Dublin and Jaffrey, is in a large sense common property; and these neighbors are not jealous of their rights in this valuable inheritance. We are always welcome to feast our eyes upon the inspiring scenery which makes the whole region glad, and to drink in the pure air which is so delicious and healthful a draft

to multitudes of the weary workers that come up, year by year, from our crowded cities. No views of the mountain are better than many from the homes of Fitzwilliam, while a good carriage-road of five miles' length from the centre of our town brings us to the base of the mountain.

The following extracts from the historical lecture of Rev. John Sabin, in 1842, may be of interest to such as are disposed to complain of the roughness, the stones and rocks of this region :

Some almost wonder that this town was ever built on, and that a community should settle here. But in early days it was a land of high credit, and I am told by the old minister of Jaffrey, Mr. Ainsworth, that the Monadnock region since his remembrance has been as much extolled as now is any part of the West. Within two days I am told by a son of an early settler in this part of Jaffrey that the fear at first was there would not be stone for fencing. We can have no question but in its natural state this town had its beauties, nor did its rocks appear as they have since.

THE OLD MILITARY ROAD.

During the almost constant wars with the French and Indians from 1735 to 1760, it was a matter of the first importance to keep open some way of direct communication between Eastern Massachusetts and the frontier toward Canada. In the early part of this period Massachusetts claimed as a part of her territory all that now constitutes the States of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, and for some time manned and supported the forts on the Connecticut River at Great Meadow (Westmoreland), at Upper Ashuelot (Keene), at No. 4 (Charlestown),* and Fort Dunmer at Brattleborough, Vt. But in order to transport the munitions of war with the

* In 1733 the government of Massachusetts granted to Josiah Willard and others a township named Arlington, which embraced the main portion of the territory now constituting the towns of Hinsdale and Winchester. At a little later date four townships were granted extending northward along the east bank of the Connecticut River, which were named Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, and which were nearly identical with the present towns of Chesterfield, Westmoreland, Walpole, and Charlestown. The settlement of the boundary-line between Massachusetts and New Hampshire in 1740 brought all these towns within the limits of New Hampshire, of course invalidating all the Massachusetts grants; but the designation of Charlestown as No. 4 being found convenient to distinguish it from Charlestown, Mass., it was retained for a long time, and is sometimes heard even at the present day.

troops through the wilderness to the frontier forts, roads for wheel vehicles became a necessity, and accordingly were constructed. The records of the times inform us that during those wars such a road was made between No. 4 (Charlestown) and Crown Point on Lake Champlain, and, without doubt, it was built by the province of Massachusetts. To hold possession of the place last mentioned was a matter of the first importance, as Crown Point, in a good measure, commanded Lake Champlain, and the route through it was the one generally taken by the French and Indians in their incursions upon the British possessions and settlements. The military road just named was, therefore, an important link in the route between Eastern Massachusetts and Canada, especially since the passage through the wilderness from Portland, Me., to the St. Lawrence was attended by the greatest hardships and perils. The Indians had trails through Northern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire over which they passed with their captives and booty, but these were of no value for the transportation of provisions, guns, and ammunition for the forts and offensive operations beyond.

It will be seen at a glance that another road of the same kind (of which the one just mentioned should be an extension or western division) was equally necessary in order to reach the Connecticut River. That such a road was built about 1735 or perhaps a little later there can be no question, but its exact location through the northern part of Worcester County, Mass., and some of the New Hampshire towns is a matter of uncertainty, for the reason that, in succeeding years, wherever it did not meet the wants of the people as a public highway it soon went out of use, and wherever it did it was maintained like the town roads in general, and as time went on its particular history was lost. But while its exact location in many places cannot be given, its general direction can be stated without any doubt. It started in the vicinity of Fitchburg, Mass., and passed through a part of Ashburnham into Winchendon, in the same State. In the latter town a branch is believed to have left the main line, and proceeding in a westerly direction passed through the south-western corner of

Fitzwilliam into Richmond, and was continued to the Connecticut River to furnish supplies to Fort Dummer, now Brattleborough, Vt. The other or more important branch (and with this we are specially concerned), taking a north-westerly direction from the point of junction in Winchendon, passed through the entire length of Fitzwilliam, and proceeded onward to Charlestown No. 4.

In 1871 the writer traced this road easily, for a considerable distance, through the section of the town north-west of the central village. The road was located a short distance west of the dwelling-house of Gilbert C. Bemis, recently burned, and proceeding northerly passed east of the Rockwood Pond, but west of the present travelled road. The track was grown up with trees, some of them of very large size, but the sluices made across the water-courses were standing as they were built one hundred and forty or one hundred and fifty years ago, and other marks remained showing the position of the road. The first house erected by General James Reed was not far from the site of Mr. Bemis's dwelling, and the cellar of the old house is a notable object in that part of the town. This house was kept as an inn for many years, first by General Reed and later by his son, Colonel Sylvanus Reed. Near by, but on the other side of the old road, is seen the cellar of the house built by Daniel Mellen, Sr. A little farther south, on the Fay Hill, as more recently called, Benjamin Bigelow, the first settler in town, located.

Whether this military road can be very definitely traced through the towns north-west of Fitzwilliam is not known; nor can it be very certainly located through the south part of Fitzwilliam. Even among the persons best informed in the case there is a difference of opinion. One supposition is that the road entered the town near the south-east corner thereof, and passing west of Sip Pond, ran near No. 4 school-house, thence east of the Collins Pond, and then, passing near the spot where the first meeting-house was afterward erected, proceeded to the Fay Hill, and so on as before described. If this is correct, it seems very probable that the road leading from No. 4 school-house southerly to Amos McGee's is a part of the orig-

inal road, and the only part now in use within the limits of Fitzwilliam. Another opinion is that the road entered Fitzwilliam farther west, coming in from Royalston, and proceeding as nearly as practicable in a direct course, struck the previously described route perhaps near the locality of the old meeting-house.

But it is not necessary to go back far in the last century to find the beginning of both these roads. In 1795 a road was laid out over the first described route as far as from the southeast corner of the town to the McGee place, then occupied by Richard Gleason, Sr. And in 1796 a road was laid out substantially covering the second or west route. Though the definite location of a great part of this road thus appears to be entirely lost, the real existence of such a road is beyond a doubt, and it is equally certain that by it the early settlers came to their new homes in the town of Fitzwilliam. It is also highly probable that the continuation of this road through Vermont was used in the Revolutionary War for the passage of troops and the transportation of supplies from New Hampshire, for the military operations in the country about Lake Champlain.

CHAPTER IV.

GRANTS OF THE LANDS IN SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Deficiency of Records—Early Explorers—Royal Claims—Plymouth Company—Ferdinando Gorges—Captain John Mason—His Heirs—Masonian Proprietors—Monadnock Townships—First Grant of Monadnock No. 4—Division of Second Grant—Ranges, Lots, etc.

THE early settlers of Fitzwilliam, as is true of pioneers generally, did not deem it necessary to keep carefully prepared records of their movements and business transactions. This common fault of the age can hardly surprise us when we remember that the necessity was laid upon them *to work*, to give all their time, thoughts, and strength to the founding of homes for themselves and their families in the wilderness. As the result of this, much of the early history of this town and of each of the adjoining towns has been lost and can never be recovered, so meagre and unsatisfactory are the ancient records. Still not a few of the motives and movements of the men who took part in opening this section of New Hampshire for settlement are traced without difficulty.

The first white men who explored this region were not in quest of fame, good farms, or valuable sites for manufacturing establishments; for since the precious metals had usually been found in mountainous regions like Mexico and Peru, the opinion was early entertained that they must be found about the base and upon the sides of Monadnock.

Accordingly, the first individuals and companies that obtained grants of these lands from the British crown sent out bands of men charged to explore the region carefully for gold and silver. The gold fever then raged, as it has in later times, and the men infected with it, both in Europe and in this country, had great expectations, which, perhaps fortunately for them and for us, were doomed to disappointment.

That these explorers met with no success we all know, but their failure has not deterred some of the present generation from repeating, upon a limited scale, the same fruitless experiment. Probably no mines of either of the precious metals will ever be discovered in Monadnock. And so far as can be known certainly by the existing generation, the same is true of the White Mountains.

Professor Sanborn, of Dartmouth College, in his "History of New Hampshire," makes the following statement, doubtless on good authority, as it has been given substantially by other writers :

In June, 1642, Darby Field, with two Indian guides, first ascended the White Mountains. In August of the same year another party, led by Thomas Gorges and Richard Vines from Maine, set out, on foot, to explore the "delectable mountains." They penetrated the desert wilderness, and climbed the rugged sides of the "White Hills" from the east. They gave a very extravagant and incoherent description of what they saw. Their imagination ran riot in marvellous inventions. They described them (the mountains) as "extending a hundred leagues, on which snow lieth all the year." On one of these mountains they found a plain of a day's journey (it must have been a Sabbath-day's journey) whereon nothing grew but moss ; and "at the farther end of this plain, a rude heap of mossy stones, piled up on one another, a mile high, on which one might ascend from stone to stone, like a pair of winding stairs, to the top, where was another level of about an acre, with a pond of clear water.

The country beyond was said to be "daunting terrible." They named these mountains "the Crystal Hills." Their provisions failed them before the beautiful lake was reached ; and though they were within one day's journey of it, they were obliged to return home. So the men of that age died without the sight.

Plainly those who sent out such exploring expeditions were obliged to take their pay in romance ; the more improbable the story the better.

Of the eight Monadnock towns, Rindge has a peculiar history, which is lucidly set forth by her historian, Ezra S. Stearns, Esq.

In 1690 Sir William Phipps, who had been a sailor, led an expedition against the French into Canada. This was a mis-

erable failure, and the troops that survived the fearful hardships of the campaign could get no pay for their service. Some of these were from Dorchester, Mass. ; others were from Rowley, Ipswich, and other towns in the eastern part of that State. Forty years later these soldiers or their heirs obtained from the General Court of Massachusetts, in the way of remuneration, grants of wild lands, some of which are now in New Hampshire, but were then claimed by Massachusetts ; and this claim was generally allowed. The men from Dorchester thus obtained what was deemed a title to the town of Ashburnham, which was then called Dorchester Canada. Winchendon became in the same way Ipswich Canada, and Rindge, Rowley Canada. The boundary-line between Massachusetts and New Hampshire, which was for a long time in dispute, was finally settled by George the Second in 1740 ; and this left our neighbor Rindge to share the fortunes of the other towns in Southern New Hampshire.* The whole difficulty respecting the Massachusetts claims to this region arose from the mistake (very early made) of supposing that the Merrimac River, in the greater part of its course, runs east instead of south.

It does not appear that the heirs of the soldiers to whom

* The entire history of the establishment of this line is interesting, especially as the old question is, in a certain sense, reopened at the present time, after the lapse of one hundred and forty-six years.

The king determined that the northern boundary of the province of Massachusetts be a similar curve-line, pursuing the course of the Merrimac River at three miles' distance on the north side thereof, beginning at the Atlantic Ocean and ending at a point due north of Patucket Falls, and a straight line drawn from thence due west till it meets with His Majesty's other governments.

This decision was a surprise to both parties, for it gave to New Hampshire a strip of territory nearly sixty miles long and fourteen broad above all that this province had ever claimed, while it deprived Massachusetts of twenty-eight new towns between the Merrimac and Connecticut rivers, and parts of six old towns on the north side of the Merrimac toward its mouth, as well as a vast tract of land west of the Connecticut River, for "His Majesty's other governments" in that direction were generally supposed to be bounded on the east by a line twenty miles east of the Hudson River.

When orders were given to run out and mark these lines, the Assembly of Massachusetts virtually refused to appoint surveyors, and New Hampshire was authorized to proceed with the work. The surveyors were to allow 10° for the westerly variation of the needle, and the chief mistakes claimed to have been made in running the lines seem to have had reference to this matter of the needle's variation. If these claims of New Hampshire shall be allowed, it will give to this State a triangular strip of territory coming to a point in Dracut, Mass., but of considerable width on the banks of the Connecticut River. The New Hampshire Commission for the settlement of this matter consists of John J. Bell, of Exeter ; Charles H. Roberts, of Concord, and N. H. Clarke, of Plalstow.

Rowley Canada was granted ever obtained any benefit from what was supposed to be a valuable property, for Rindge being declared to be in New Hampshire in 1740, its fortunes ever after differed not materially from those of the Monadnock towns generally.

It appears from the ancient records that a large part of the territory embraced in Southern New Hampshire was repeatedly given away and sold and resold by those who had no just title to a foot of land in this region.

The following statement, which is condensed as far as it can be if the continuity of the narrative shall be preserved, is believed to be truthful, for it is made on the authority of the Colonial Records and of the best early historians of New Hampshire, particularly Belknap, who published his history in 1785 and 1791.

Claiming it by right of discovery, James the First, in 1606, set apart for colonization all the territory in North America between the forty-first and forty-fifth degrees of north latitude, and (for anything that appears to the contrary) from ocean to ocean. This was named North Virginia. The grant in question was made to a company of "Knights, Gentlemen, and Merchants," residing chiefly in the south-west part of England, and was named, from the chief city of that section of England, "The Plymouth Company." One fifth part of the precious metals and one fifteenth part of the copper that might be found in the country thus obtained the king reserved for his treasury.

Fourteen years later, or about the year that became memorable by the arrival of the Pilgrims on the coast of Massachusetts, this "Council of Plymouth," as it was afterward called, obtained a new charter that enlarged its possessions; for it granted to that company all the lands between the fortieth and forty-eighth degrees of north latitude, "from sea to sea," which expression, if it meant anything, meant from the Atlantic to the Pacific, or a territory about five hundred and fifty miles wide and two thousand five hundred miles long. This grant was called "New England in America."

Two of the most active and ambitious members of this

"Council of Plymouth" that obtained the grant of this immense territory were Sir Ferdinando Gorges and Captain John Mason. The former, Gorges, who had been the commander of the fort and Governor of Plymouth, England, was a bold, restless, impulsive man, who, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, appears to have been associated with Sir Walter Raleigh in attempts to found colonies in Virginia. He is said to have been a scholar and statesman like his associate, Raleigh, and it was his claim that his enterprises were undertaken largely to advance religion and the cause of humanity in general. Historians quote him as saying that

the planting of colonies in America was undertaken for the advancement of religion, the enlargement of the bounds of our nation, and the employment of many thousands of all sorts of people.

Many of his schemes having miscarried, he deemed himself fortunate when he fell in with Captain John Mason, who was a man of the same spirit. Formerly he had been a merchant in London, but at a later period he had been Governor of Newfoundland, where he had succeeded in restoring to their tribes some captive Indians. Being a man of ability, Mason was appointed Secretary of the Plymouth Company, and soon obtained from his associates a grant of

all the land from the river Naumkeag (Salem) round Cape Ann to the river Merrimac and up each of these rivers to the farthest head thereof; then to cross over from the head of the one to the head of the other, with all the islands lying within three miles of the coast.

This district was called "Mariana," doubtless from its having the ocean for its eastern boundary. So little was known of the length of the Naumkeag (which was supposed to be a great river rising far to the west), and also respecting the general course of the Merrimac River, that this was deemed to be a very valuable grant, whereas it actually embraced but a comparatively small territory—viz., the triangular section of Massachusetts included in lines drawn from Lowell to Newburyport and Salem, with the sea-shore as its eastern boundary. Not a foot of this grant lay in New Hampshire. Probably becoming convinced that a mistake had been made, Gorges and Mason

soon obtained another grant "of all the lands between the rivers Merrimac and Sagadahock (the Kennebec), extending back to the great lakes and river of Canada." This they held jointly and called it Laconia, because of the great number of lakes that it contained. Both of these men seem to have had visions of great wealth and of nobility also through their American possessions, and both were sorely disappointed. In 1629 Mason obtained from the Plymouth Council a new patent, but covering no new territory, for the whole of it had been granted seven years before to him and Gorges jointly. This embraced the land

from the middle of Piscataqua River and up the same to the farthest head thereof, and from thence north-westward until sixty miles from the mouth of the harbor were finished ; also through Merrimac River to the farthest head thereof, and so forward up into the land westward until sixty miles were finished ; and from thence to cross overland to the end of sixty miles accounted from Piscataqua River ; together with all the islands within five leagues from the shore.

This territory Mason and Gorges named New Hampshire, the former having been for a time Governor of Portsmouth, in Hampshire County, England.

Not long after the two partners divided their American possessions, Gorges taking the eastern division, which became the province of Maine, and Mason holding as his share what is now New Hampshire.

From 1625 to 1648 Charles the First was King of England, and it was a time of great lawlessness in the New England colonies generally. The Plymouth Council was obliged to surrender its charter to the crown, while Gorges and Mason established no civil governments in the territories which they claimed to own. In 1635 Captain Mason died suddenly, leaving what had been regarded as his princely estate greatly reduced by large outlays for supplies and wages paid to his colonists. His widow, who was his executrix, sent over from England one Captain Francis Norton to care for and manage the property here ; but he and those whom he employed managed to divide nearly all the goods and cattle among themselves.

One hundred of great cattle, valued at twenty-five pounds each, very large beasts of a yellow color, and said to have been brought by Captain Mason from Denmark,

are reported to have been driven to Boston and sold as a part of the booty.

Captain Mason left a will, made a few days before his death, by which he left to his grandson, Robert Tufton, "his manor of Mason Hall," near Portsmouth, and to his grandson, John Tufton, the remainder of his estate in New Hampshire, on condition that each should take the surname of Mason. John Tufton Mason died when young, and his share became the property of his younger brother, Robert Tufton Mason. This young man became of age in 1650. Litigation concerning the title to the New Hampshire property succeeding, Massachusetts now had a survey made of what she deemed her territory, and fixed her northern boundary as far north as the head-waters of the Merrimac River. The Mason estate seemed now completely swallowed up, and during the Protectorate of Cromwell no help could be hoped for from the British Government, as the Masons were royalists. But after the restoration of Charles the Second, in 1660, Robert Tufton Mason appealed to the king for redress. The decision was that New Hampshire belonged to the heir of Captain John Mason.

These grants did not remove the granted territory from under the British Government. When the settlements increased so as to require them, the usual colonial officers were generally appointed by the King and Council; but at this time there being no recognized royal governor in the territory north of Massachusetts, the government of that province claimed the right to control the entire region, and this claim was acquiesced in for nearly forty years, or until 1680.

Robert Tufton Mason died in 1688, while he was doing everything possible to enforce his claim to New Hampshire. Soon after his sons and heirs sold to Samuel Allen, of London, their entire claim to the province for seven hundred and fifty pounds. Allen was made Governor of New Hampshire, but his claims were disregarded. A serious informality was found in the deed to Allen, and his heirs practically relinquished

their claim to the property, which reverted, as a matter of course, to the heirs of Mason.*

In 1744 John Tufton Mason (who was a great-great-grandson of Captain John Mason, and the third of that name) offered to release his interest in the territory to the province of New Hampshire for one thousand pounds New England currency.

So much of the genealogy of the Mason family as is needed is here given :

1. Captain John Mason. Died 1635.
2. Anne Mason Tufton, his daughter.
3. John and Robert Tufton Mason. John died when a child ; Robert (succeeding to the estate) died in 1688, leaving two sons, John and Robert. John had no children, but
4. Robert, who died in 1718, left two sons, John and Thomas. This
5. John Tufton Mason represented the Mason claim and sold it, as will be seen below. *

Benning Wentworth was now Governor of New Hampshire, a man of energy and no mean capacity for business, but he was busy with his schemes for including what is now Vermont within the limits of New Hampshire, and granting charters for and giving names to towns west of the Connecticut River. The noted expedition for the capture of Louisburg, which Mason joined, was also engrossing public attention to the exclusion of almost everything else.

Two years passed, when the New Hampshire Assembly took measures to complete the bargain with Mason ; but on the same day when this was to have been done, Mason sold all his interest in New Hampshire to a company of twelve men, whose names follow :

Theodore Atkinson, Mark Hunking Wentworth, Richard Wibird, John Wentworth, Jr., John Moffat, Samuel Moore, Jotham Odiorne, Jr., George Jaffrey, Jr., Joshua Pierce, and Nathaniel Meserve, all of Portsmouth ; Thomas Wallingford,

* In the conveyance to Allen the lands are described as being "In New Hampshire, Main, Masonia, Laconia, Mason-hall and Mariana, in America, in the parish of Greenwich."

of Somersworth, and Thomas Packer, of Greenland. The first of the twelve seems to have had three shares, the second two shares, and the others one share each.

At a later date there were added to these nine new proprietors—viz., John Rindge, Joseph Blanchard, Daniel Pierce, John Tufton Mason, John Thomlinson, Mathew Livermore, William Packer, Samuel Solley, and Clement March, making the whole number twenty-one. These gentlemen it has been customary to denominate, for the sake of convenience, “the Masonian Proprietors.”*

The character of Mason, in making this sale of his claims, appears to have been above suspicion, for he had seasonably notified the Assembly of the consequences that would follow in case of delay. The price actually paid to Mason by the new proprietors was fifteen hundred pounds. The settlers generally seem to have been indignant at first, while the government of the province blustered; but the proprietors remained unmoved. To conciliate all parties, they granted charters for new townships upon very liberal terms, demanding no pay from actual settlers upon their lands.

In every township granted by them, one right was set apart for a settled minister of the gospel, one for a parsonage, one for a school, and fifteen must be reserved for themselves, and, in some cases at least, two for their attorneys. In general also they stipulated that the purchasers or grantees of the new townships should, within a limited time, build meeting-houses, clear and make suitable roads, erect mills, and settle ministers. Of course they did not anticipate anything like rival religious churches and societies while imposing these conditions upon those who purchased their lands.

The liberality of the Masonian proprietors soon won popular favor, and the settlements increased notwithstanding the great draft of men and money occasioned by almost constant war

* These men were among the most respected and influential in the province, and nine of the twenty-one held the office of councillor under the royal government—viz.: Jotham Odiorne, appointed in 1724; Theodore Atkinson, Secretary, 1734 and 1762; Richard Wibird, appointed 1739; John Rindge, appointed 1740; Joseph Blanchard, appointed 1740; Samuel Solley, appointed 1753; M. H. Wentworth, appointed 1759; Daniel Pierce, appointed 1766; George Jaffrey, appointed 1766.

with the French and Indians. Perplexing and expensive lawsuits over conflicting claims were not uncommon, but the Revolution soon came, which effectually disposed of all such disputes.

Before this, and shortly after the Masonian proprietors had completed their purchase, they caused townships to be surveyed and held in readiness to meet any satisfactory application for a grant. The region about the Monadnock was included in these surveys, and the townships were called Monadnock townships and distinguished by numbers, some of them also by local names, which they bore until they were severally chartered and named by the provincial government.

These names were as follows : Monadnock No. 1, or South Monadnock, included the greater part of the Massachusetts grant called Rowley Canada, and is now the town of Rindge ; Monadnock No. 2, or Middle Monadnock, is now Jaffrey ; Monadnock No. 3, or North Monadnock, was incorporated as Dublin, and included the present town of Dublin and more than half the town of Harrisville ; Monadnock No. 4, or Stoddardtown, was named Fitzwilliam at its incorporation, and included the present town of Fitzwilliam and fully half the town of Troy ; Monadnock No. 5 was called New Marlborough and incorporated as Marlborough, and included the present town of Marlborough, a part of Roxbury, and some less than half of Troy ; Monadnock No. 6 was named Packersfield at its incorporation, and changed to Nelson in 1814. It included the present town of Nelson and a part of Harrisville. Monadnock No. 7 was called Limerick till its incorporation, when it was named Stoddard ; Monadnock No. 8 was called Camden till December 13th, 1776, when it was incorporated and named Washington. This was certainly one of the first places named for "the Father of his Country," perhaps the very first. Minor changes have been made in some of these towns that are not referred to in the foregoing description. The names Camden, Limerick, and New Marlborough were so generally accepted as to be used in deeds and other formal and legal documents.

It should be here observed that the north-western boundary

of the Masonian grant was for some time in dispute. The last grant to Mason, which gave the boundaries of the territory ceded to him more definitely than those of an earlier date, described the southern boundary as commencing at the sea, three miles north of the mouth of the Merrimac, and running west sixty miles. But on an appeal to the King and Council it was decided, as we have already seen, that the eastern part of this line should follow the general course of the Merrimac, three miles north of it, to a point due north of Patucket Falls, and that from thence the course should be due west. The north-west line, connecting the west end of the south line with the north end of the east line, the colonial authorities claimed was a straight line, while the Masonian Proprietors contended that it must be a curved line, as such a line only would give them the sixty miles from the sea. The establishment of the proprietors' claim it was supposed would bring all the Monadnock towns within the limits of their purchase, and so, assuming that the sixty miles from the sea reached to the south-west corner of Monadnock No. 4, they had issued grants accordingly. Thus the matter stood at the opening of the American Revolution.

In 1787 the State of New Hampshire settled this question by measuring sixty miles west from the shore, on the Massachusetts line, and making the north-west line of the Mason grant straight, with no reference to the curves and indentations of the shore. This survey left a part of Monadnock No. 1, most of No. 2, and all of the other Monadnock towns outside of the Mason grant. The proprietors, however, came forward at once and purchased of the State of New Hampshire all the disputed territory they had claimed, paying for the same forty thousand dollars in public securities and eight hundred dollars in cash. Thus the conveyances of the Masonian Proprietors were rendered valid.

The John Rindge whose name appears above at the head of the list of gentlemen added to the Masonian Proprietors after their purchase was plainly a man of established character and great ability; for besides giving its name to our neighbor on the east, he was employed in 1731 by the province of

New Hampshire as its agent, and sent to London to petition the king to decide between the conflicting claims of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Great interests were pending, and Rindge and Thomlinson, who succeeded him in the agency, did not a little to secure a decision in favor of our province.

The twenty-one Masonian Proprietors, through their agent, Joseph Blanchard, on January 15th, 1752, granted to Roland Cotton and forty-one others the entire territory known as Monadnock No. 4, now Fitzwilliam. The names of six of Roland Cotton's associates in this purchase were as follows: Josiah Cotton, Matthew Thornton, Sampson Stoddard, Thomas Read, William Lawrence, and John Stevens.

The exact conditions of this grant cannot here be given in full, but it is known that they required of each of the grantees the clearing of a certain number of acres upon one or more of the lots drawn by him within a specified time, the building of a house upon the same, with a family actually residing in it, the opening of roads, the establishment of a school, and the building of a meeting-house.

This grant of 1752 became void because its conditions were not fulfilled. The reasons of this failure we can easily conjecture. All kinds of business had been disturbed by the war between England and France, which ended in 1748. A new struggle between the same nations was in the air, and this, which proved to be "the Seven Years' War," or "the French and Indian War," as it was variously called, promised to be the most costly and destructive for the American provinces. It was no time for the settlement and improvement of a new township like Monadnock No. 4. But though they failed to comply with the conditions of their contract, Roland Cotton and his associates seem not to have lost all their interest in the township, for at a later date an amicable settlement was made. As will be seen, a new grant was made in 1765, and many of the grantees in 1752 became grantees under the new contract, for in this their hardships are alluded to, and are treated with due consideration. Sampson Stoddard, Matthew Thornton, and John Stevens were grantees in both cases, and the second list of grantees doubtless included all of the first who had done

anything in the way of improvement, and wished to be included in the new company.

We have now reached a point in this history when the records of all the parties concerned are comparatively full and explicit.

What immediately follows is an exact copy of the oldest record in the possession of the town. It readily explains itself, for it gives us the reasons for a new grant of the township, which was made in 1763, with all the conditions attached to it in plain language. The penmanship in which this record appears in the ancient book is a model of plainness and beauty. The orthography of business men one hundred and twenty years ago has been carefully preserved, and it will be seen to vary but little from what the best usage now requires.

The free use of capital letters will be noted. A few words evidently omitted by mistake in the original are inserted in brackets.

Province of	}	At a meeting of the Prop ^{rs} of the Lands Purchased of
New Hamp ^e		John Tufton Mason Esqr in New Hamp ^e held at Portsm th
		in said Province on Wednesday the first Day of May
		Anno Domini 1763, by adjournment.

WHEREAS the said Prop^{rs} on the 6th day of December 1751 authorized and Impowered Joseph Blanchard, late of Dunstable in said Province, Esqr. to Grant their Right, Title and Interest in and to the Lands within their Claim, to such persons as would Engage to Settle and Improve the same, under such Limitations and Conditions as Were Just and Reasonable. Pursuant to Which Power, he, on the 15th Day of January, Anno Domini 1752, granted to Roland Cotton, Josiah Cotton, Matthew Thornton, Sampson Stoddard, Thomas Read, William Lawrence, John Stevens & thirty five others, all the Right, Title, Interest, claim, Property and Demand of said Proprietors of, in and unto that Tract of Land Called Monadnock No. 4, bounded as follows, "Beginning at the West Line of Masons' Patent so called where that crosses the Dividing Line Between the Province of Massachusetts Bay and the Province of New Hamp^e and runs from thence South Eighty degrees East by said Line, Six Miles to the South West Corner of the South Monadnock Township, from thence North by the Needle by said Township Five Miles to the North West corner of South Monadnock aforesaid, from thence North Eighty Degrees West by Middle Monadnock Township, one mile and a Quarter to the South West Corner thereof, thence North by the Needle two miles and forty rods and from thence North Eighty Degrees [West]

till [it] comes to the Patent West Line as Lately Marked and from thence Southerly by that Line to the first Bounds mentioned." To have and to hold, to them their heirs and assigns, on the Terms and Conditions in Said Grant expressed with a Right of the Entry Reserved on the failure or Default of Performing and fully complying with the Same as may more fully appear by Reference to Said Grant.

AND WHEREAS the Said Grantees have Incurred the forfeiture of Said Grant by not fulfilling the Said Conditions within the Term Limited, and tho' by Sufferance and forbearance a Longer time has been allowed, which yet has not availed, Whereupon the Grantors have Re-entered and Resumed the Possession of Said Tract of Land, and the Said Grantees acknowledging their Neglect and Default herein, and the Right of Resumption, have peaceably surrendered the same, and have petitioned the Said Proprietors to make a new grant thereof to the Petitioners (principally the former Grantees) all which having been Duly Considered, and also that many of them have Done Something in order to Improvement and that it would be more Equitable they should have the advantage thereof than strangers, THEREFORE

VOTED, That all the Right, Title, Interest, Property, Claim & Demand of the Said Proprietors be and hereby is Granted to Col Sampson Stoddard Esqr. Edmund Grouard, Jacob Treadwell Jr. Jonathan Lovewell and Nineteen others whose Names are mentioned in the Schedule or List hereunto annexed Making twenty three in the Whole, in and to said Tract of Land above Described on the Terms Conditions and Limitations hereafter Expressed,

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD to them and to their Several and Respective heirs and assigns in Severalty as the same has been Divided into Separate lots and as the said Lots are Numbered and Set to the Respective Names in Said Schedule on the following Terms Conditions & Limitations—

FIRST that twenty of the Shares as the same are Sever'd allotted and Divided Numbered and fixed to the Several Names in Said Schedule be and hereby is Reserved to the use of the Grantors their heirs and assigns free and Exempted of and from all charges of settlement and all Other charges untill Improved by them their heirs or assigns—and also that two hundred acres Lay'd out for the Grantors at the North Easterly part of Said Tract of land as appears by Said Schedule and a plan thereof be in like manner Reserved to them their heirs & assigns.

SECONDLY that those of the Aforesaid Shares be and hereby are appropriated one for the first Settled minister one for the use of the Ministry and one for the use of a School on Said Tract of Land when settled.

THIRDLY that the Remaining Shares be and hereby are Granted and appropriated to the Several Persons and Sever'd to them

Respectively as is mentioned and Number'd in Said Schedule ; And Each lot of Land in Said Tract shall be Subject to have Necessary high Ways Lay'd out thro' them as there shall be Occasion hereafter free from the charge of purchasing the Land that is the Owners of Said Lots shall not be paid for that part thereof which shall be so Necessarily Lay'd out in high Ways untill an Incorporation and then to come under the Rules of Law in that Regard.

FOURTHLY that the Grantees aforesaid, (subject to the Duty of Settlement) Build fifty houses on Said Tract of Land Such Shares to have one house on One of the Lots belonging to it Respectively as the Grantees shall determine by regular Votes according to their Interests within three Years from the Date hereof Each House to be Built so as to have one Room Sixteen feet Square or Equal thereto and also to have Twelve acres Land cleared and fitted for Tillage Pasture and Mowing within the term of three Years and to add an acre more annually till the Inhabitants there shall be Incorporated, (on each Share), the said houses to be Well fitted and made Comfortable habitations and the Said Land to be cleared in a good Husbandman like manner and every Particular Grantee aforesaid shall pay his Due Proportion of all Taxes and Charges necessary to the Making Said Settlement in the articles aforesaid and in what follows on Pain of forfeiting his Right in Said Land or so much thereof as shall answer his proportion of such Taxes and Charges to be disposed of by a Committee chosen by a major part of the Grantees (appointed for that purpose).

FIFTHLY the said Grantees shall build a Convenient Meeting House for Public Worship within five years from the Date hereof and shall Maintain Constant preaching there from after the Term of six Years from the Date hereof.

SIXTHLY all white pine Trees Growing on any part of said Land tho' severd into Lots, are hereby Reserved, that are fit for his MAJESTY'S Use for that purpose to him his heirs and successors.

SEVENTHLY if the Grantees shall fail and make default of Completing the Settlement according to the Terms and Limitations aforesaid it shall be lawful to and for the said Proprietors and their successors to Re-enter into and upon the Said Tract of Land to Resume the same and to become Re-seized thereof as in their former Estate and as if this grant had not been made.

Copy of Record

Attest ; Geo. Jaffrey Prop. Cler.

Received and Recorded this 22^d Day of May 1765.

Exam.

Sampson Stoddard Jr.

Pros. Clerk.

NAMES OF THE GRANTEES IN MONADNOCK No. 4.					
	Draft.	No.	Range.	No.	Range.
Col. Sampson Stoddard	1	6	12	15	9
Edmund Grouard	2	1	12	2	12
Jacob Treadwell Jun.	3	3	12	13	8
Jonathan Lovewell	4	4	12	11	8
Col. Stoddard	5	5	12	14	9
Benjamin Bellows	6	7	12	13	9
Col. Stoddard	7	8	12	12	7
Matthew Thornton	8	9	12	16	9
Nathl. Brooks	9	10	12	17	7
Thomas Spaulding	10	11	12	6	2
Matthew Thornton	11	12	12	16	5
M. Thornton	12	13	12	17	5
Grantor Meserve and others	13	1	1	1	2
John Honey	14	15	12	16	4
Col. Stoddard	15	16	12	17	4
Nathl. Treadwell	16	17	12	10	6
Abel Lawrence Esqr.	17	18	12	11	6
Col. Stoddard	18	19	12	10	7
Paul March	19	20	12	9	9
James Reed	20	21	12	12	6
Col. Stoddard	21	1	11	6	9
Grantor John Wentworth	22	12	8	12	9
Grantor John Rindge	23	2	9	2	11
Edmund Grouard	24	4	11	10	9
Matthew Thornton	25	5	11	11	9
Grantor Solly & March	26	3	11	4	2
Grantor Col. Wallingford	27	4	9	5	5
Grantor M. H. J. Wentworth	28	5	6	6	6
Thomas Spaulding	29	9	11	9	7
The Heirs or Assigns of Geo. Libbey	30	10	11	10	10
Nathaniel Brooks	31	11	11	11	10
Col. Stoddard	32	12	11	13	10
Matthew Thornton	33	13	11	15	10
James Reed	34	14	11	16	8
James Reed	35	15	11	13	6
Charles Treadwell	36	16	11	13	7
Col. Stoddard	37	17	11	17	8
Grantor Geo. Jaffrey	38	6	8	6	11
Grantor Josh ^a Pierce	39	7	9	7	11
Abel Lawrence	40	20	11	4	4

NAMES OF THE GRANTEES IN MONADNOCK No. 4.	Draft.		No.		Range.		No.		Range.	
Col. Stoddard.....	41	21	11	7	6					
John Stevens.....	42	1	10	2	10					
Col. Stoddard.....	43	3	10	8	10					
Col. Stoddard.....	44	4	10	7	10					
Col. Stoddard.....	45	5	10	6	10					
Grantor Nath ^l Pierce.....	46	8	3	8	9					
Col. Stoddard.....	47	12	10	5	9					
Grantor Tho ^s . Packer... ..	48	8	11	9	5					
Grantor Jon. Blanchard.....	49	10	5	15	1					
Grantor W ^m Packer.....	50	15	2	15	3					
Col. Stoddard.....	51	20	10	4	8					
Col. Stoddard.....	52	22	12	4	6					
Col. Stoddard.....	53	22	11	5	2					
Col. Stoddard.....	54	21	10	13	5					
Col. Stoddard.....	55	22	10	3	6					
Col. Stoddard.....	56	23	10	8	6					
John Stevens.....	57	1	9	18	9					
W ^m Earl Treadwell.....	58	3	9	3	8					
Col. Stoddard.....	59	17	9	13	3					
James Reed.....	60	19	9	10	4					
Col. Stoddard.....	61	20	9	4	7					
Col. Stoddard.....	62	21	9	9	4					
Daniel Millen.....	63	22	9	23	9					
Matthew Thornton.....	64	1	8	1	7					
Grantor Col. Atkinson.....	65	15	4	14	10					
James Reed.....	66	5	8	12	4					
Grantor M. Livermore.....	67	14	12	16	10					
Col. Stoddard.....	68	8	8	9	8					
Col. Stoddard.....	69	10	8	6	4					
Grantor Noah Emory of Kittery.....	70	18	5	17	10					
Sampson Stoddard Jun.....	71	18	8	10	3					
Jonathan Lovewell.....	72	8	2	9	2					
Col. Stoddard.....	73	20	8	23	8					
Jon ⁿ Willson.....	74	21	8	11	2					
Col. Stoddard.....	75	3	7	5	7					
Col. Stoddard.....	76	6	7	7	1					
Col. Stoddard.....	77	7	7	19	7					
John Woods.....	78	8	7	23	7					
Col. Stoddard.....	79	18	7	23	6					
Col. Stoddard.....	80	20	7	22	7					

NAMES OF THE GRANTEES IN MONADNOCK No. 4.					Draft.	No.	Range.	No.	Range.
Col. Stoddard.....	81	21	7	14	3				
Col. Stoddard.....	82	1	6	13	4				
Col. Stoddard.....	83	2	6	12	3				
Grantor Thomlinson & Mason.....	84	18	10	18	11				
Col. Stoddard.....	85	9	6	10	1				
James Reed.....	86	17	6	13	2				
Col. Stoddard.....	87	18	6	14	2				
Col. Stoddard.....	88	19	6	11	3				
Grantor Jotham Odiorne.....	89	19	8	19	10				
Col. Stoddard.....	90	21	6	22	6				
Col. Stoddard.....	91	1	5	3	3				
James Reed.....	92	2	5	3	5				
Jonathan Blanchard.....	93	4	5	11	1				
James Reed.....	94	6	5	12	1				
Col. Stoddard.....	95	7	5	13	1				
Sampson Stoddard Jun.....	96	8	5	14	1				
Col. Stoddard.....	97	19	5	18	4				
Matthew Thornton.....	98	20	5	23	5				
Col. Stoddard.....	99	21	5	7	2				
Jonathan Lovewell.....	100	2	8	2	7				
Col. Stoddard.....	101	1	4	8	4				
Capt. Benj ⁿ Edwards.....	102	2	4	20	4				
Capt. Benj ⁿ Edwards.....	103	3	4	6	1				
Heirs or Assigns of Jere: Libbey.....	104	5	4	21	4				
Abel Lawrence, Esqr.....	105	7	4	23	4				
M. Thornton.....	106	11	4	22	4				
Jon ⁿ Willson.....	107	14	4	19	4				
Grantor Richard Wibird, Esqr.....	108	19	11	20	6				
Col. Stoddard.....	109	1	3	14	5				
Col. Stoddard.....	110	2	3	15	5				
Benjamin Bellows.....	111	4	3	5	3				
Col. Stoddard.....	112	6	3	7	3				
James Reed.....	113	9	3	10	2				
Grantor John Moffatt.....	114	9	10	22	5				
Col. Stoddard.....	115	16	3	16	2				
Col. Stoddard.....	116	2	2	3	2				
Grantor Pierce and Moor.....	117	23	11	23	12				
Col. Stoddard.....	118	12	2	2	1				
Daniel Millen.....	119	15	8	8	1				
Col. Stoddard.....	120	4	1	5	1				

Names of the Grantees in Monadnock No. 4.	Draft.	No.	Range.	No.	Range.
For the Ministry.....	121	12	5	16	1
For the first settled Minister....	122	11	7	7	8
For a School.....	123	11	5	3	1
Two hundred acres Lay'd out for the Grantors at the North Easterly part of the town, as per plan Exhibited herewith.					
Col. Stoddard.....	22	8	14	8	
Col. Stoddard.....	14	6	14	7	
the Same.....	15	6	15	7	
the Same.....	16	6	16	7	
the Same.....	17	1	17	2	
the Same.....	17	3	9	1	

May 1, 1765.

This Schedule Exhibited

By

Sampson Stoddard.

Jonⁿ Blanchard.Copy Exam^d per Geo: Jaffrey Prop^s Cler.Received and Recorded this 22^d day of May 1765.Exam^d per Sampson Stoddard Jun. Prop^s Clerk.*

A copy of the original plan of the town, but much reduced in size, is here given. In the original plan the names of the owners are inserted in the lots, but in this plan they are designated by figures, referring to the accompanying index. The number of lots owned by each person is also given, it being understood that two lots constituted a share. This gave about four fifths of the land to the settlers. The same was

* How the name of Noah Emory of Kittery, draft 70, appears among the grantors in the foregoing table of drawings is not known, as his name is not found in the list of Masonian Proprietors. It will be noticed that Messrs. Solley and March, Thomlinson and Mason, and Pierce and Moore, grantors, were coupled together in the drawing, which may indicate that changes had taken place among the proprietors between 1746 and 1765, and this certainly is not improbable. The grantors had twenty shares.

Numbered on the Plan.	Grantees, the Town Proprietors.	Number of Lots Owned.	Numbered on the Plan.	Grantors, the Masonian Proprietors.	Number of Lots Owned.
1...	Sampson Stoddard.....	110	25...	John Wentworth.....	2
2...	James Reed.....	18	26...	John Rindge.....	2
3...	Matthew Thornton.....	16	27...	George Jaffrey.....	2
4...	Abel Lawrence.....	6	28...	Nathaniel Pierce.....	2
5...	Jona. Lovewell.....	6	29...	M. Livermore.....	2
6...	Benjamin Bellows.....	4	30...	Joshua Pierce.....	2
7...	Nathaniel Brooks.....	4	31...	Richard Wibird.....	2
8...	Capt. Benj. Edwards....	4	32...	William Parker.....	2
9...	Edmund Grouard.....	4	33...	M. H. J. Wentworth....	2
10...	Daniel Mellen.....	4	34...	Col. Wallingford.....	2
11...	John Stevens.....	4	35...	Noah Emery.....	2
12...	Thomas Spaulding.....	4	36...	Thomas Packer.....	2
13...	S. Stoddard, Jr.....	4	37...	Col. Atkinson.....	2
14...	Jona. Willson.....	4	38...	Jotham Odiorne.....	2
15...	Jona. Blanchard.....	2	39...	John Moffatt.....	2
16...	John Honey.....	2	40...	Joseph Blanchard.....	2
17...	Heirs of George Libbey..	2	41...	Thomlinson & Mason....	2
18...	" " Jere. Libbey....	2	42...	Solly & March.....	2
19...	Paul March.....	2	43...	Pierce & Moore.....	2
20...	Chas. Treadwell.....	2	44...	Meserve & others.....	2
21...	Jacob Treadwell, Jr....	2			
22...	Nath'l Treadwell.....	2		M...For the Ministry.....	2
23...	Wm. E. Treadwell.....	2		FM...For first Minister....	2
24...	John Woods.....	2		S...For Schools.....	2
Total number of Lots.....		258			

The lots were theoretically one hundred and sixty rods in length from east to west and one hundred rods in width from north to south, and each was supposed to contain one hundred acres. But in reality there was considerable variation in their size, and they exceeded one hundred acres on an average.

From some cause which it is now impossible to explain, the twelfth tier of lots was much narrower than the average, having been but seventy-five rods wide on the Richmond line and not far from fifty rods wide on the border of Rindge. From certain subsequent references to "the narrow tier," it would seem that this defect was not known when the allotment was made.

It was also ascertained, after the settlement of the town was

commenced, that the town of Jaffrey extended farther west than was supposed at the time of the allotment, and that not only the six half lots in the third range but also a portion of the adjoining lots in the fourth range were included in the limits of that town. Four of these half lots, or two hundred acres, were assigned originally to the grantors, the Masonian Proprietors, and the other two were drawn by Colonel Sampson Stoddard when the division was made.

In regard to the manner in which the drawing was conducted we have no information, but from the irregularity in coupling the two parts that constituted the same share, as well as in the allotment generally, it seems probable that the arrangement was made by lot. It will be noticed that in the boundaries of the township, as given in the grant, the length of the north line and the length and course of the west line are not stated. If the west line of the Mason grant was a curved line, as the owners claimed it should have been, Monadnock No. 4 should have been somewhat wider on the northern than on the southern boundary, but such does not appear to have been the case.

Below is given, in rods, the length of the boundary-lines (1) as stated in the grant, calling the lines on the north and west the same as on the south and east; (2) from a survey made by S. Hemingway in 1807, and (3) from perambulations of the lines in 1847.

	West line on Richmond and Swansey.	North line on Marlborough.	East line on Jaffrey.	North line on Jaffrey.	East line on Rindge.	South line on Mass.
1	2280	1520	680	400	1600	1920
2	2312	1390	665	586	1654	2005
3	....	....	...	603	1732	....

The territory ceded by the Masonian Proprietors was designed to constitute a township six miles square; but as the early surveys were far from being exact, it was in reality somewhat larger. According to the plan of the township there were two hundred and fifty-eight lots to dispose of. As will be seen, Colonel Sampson Stoddard was by far the largest shareholder.

According to the terms of the grant by the Masonian Proprietors, each of them, twenty-one in number, had one share or two lots, though some of these men appear with partners at the drawing and selection. Thus "Grantor Meserve and others" are found upon the list as owners; also "Grantor Thomlinson and Mason." This Mason was, without doubt, the John Tufton Mason who sold the entire Mason claim to the twelve men of Portsmouth and vicinity, January 30th, 1746; and it is an interesting fact that the name of Captain John Mason now reappears in the history of one of the Monadnock towns, in the person of his great-great-grandson, one hundred and thirty years after the death of his distinguished ancestor.

CHAPTER V.

ACTS OF THE PROPRIETORS, 1765-1815.

Meetings—Officers—"The Fifty Settlements"—Provision for a Meeting-House—Preaching—Meeting-House Raised—Mr. Benjamin Brigham—His Ordination—Pews—Pastor's Salary—Roads and Bridges—Movement for Incorporation—Minister's Support Assumed by Town.

WITHIN twenty days after the Mason Proprietors had transferred their rights in Monadnock No. 4 to the new owners, the latter took measures to perfect their organization in a legal manner as a new company, and to open the way for the settlement of the township. For this purpose the following notice was issued, signed by sixteen of the grantees, who now took the name of proprietors :

WHEREAS the Proprietors of the Lands granted by John Tufton Mason Esqr. commonly called Mason's Patent, have lately granted to us (with some few others) a Tract of Land about six Miles Square as may appear by the Grant, with conditions of settlement and in order to the Carrying on the same with Effect it is Necessary some meathod should be pursued by General Consent by the Grantees for which end it is proposed that they shall meet at the Dwelling house of Thomas Harwood in Dunstable on Monday the 20th Day of May Instant at Twelve O'clock at noon then and there when met to Chuse a Clerk for the Grantees and to act on any other matter or thing that shall then be projected being necessary for Carrying forward and Compleating the Settlement aforesaid.

William Earl Treadwell, Benj^a Edwards, Paul March, Jacob Treadwell Jun, Charles Treadwell, Sampson Stoddard, Matthew Thornton, Jacob Treadwell Jun. for Edmund Grouard, Nath^l Treadwell, Jonathan Blanchard, Thomas Spaulding, Sampson Stoddard Jun. Nath^l Brooks, Abel Lawrence, Daniel Millen, James Reed.

A True Copy of the Original.

Exam^d per Sampson Stoddard Jun.

What follows will explain itself :

At a meeting of the Prop^s the Grantees of that Tract of Land called Monadnock No 4 in the Province of New Hampshire Granted by the

Purchasers of Mason's right so called held at the house of Thomas Harwood in Dunstable on Monday the 20th day of May 1765—

1st. Col. Sampson Stoddard unanimously chosen Moderator.

2. Chose Sampson Stoddard Jun. Clerk for the Grantees.

3. then the following meathod for Calling meetings for the future was agreed upon and Voted that upon application of the Owners of Ten Original Shares made in writing to the Clerk (for the Time Being) Inserting therein the Several matters and things Desired to be acted upon he shall and is hereby authorized and Impowered to Call such a Meeting or meetings Posting proper Notifications at some place in Dunstable in New Hamp^{re} and at some public place in Chelmsford at least fourteen Days Before hand and all meetings so posted and held accordingly shall be good and Valid. Then this meeting was dismiss^d.

May 20. 1765.

Attest Sampson Stoddard

Mod^r.

A true Copy of the Original Exam^d per Sampson Stoddard Jun.

Prop^r Clerk.

The next meeting of the proprietors was called by Sampson Stoddard, junior, clerk, for Monday, August 19th, 1765, at one o'clock in the afternoon, at the house of Captain Oliver Barron, innholder in Chelmsford,

then and there when met to act on the following articles as they shall judge proper—

1st. To see who of the Grantees shall make the fifty Settlements enjoined by grant and to act thereon as shall Be agreed on.

2d. To raise Money by a tax for any use for carrying forward and compleating the settlement of said Township.

3dly. To see if the Grantees will give any Encouragement Towards Building Mills in said Township and to Do and act as they shall deem proper.

4th. To Chuse a Committee to Receive Examine and Allow all accounts of any Person or Persons who have done Service for the Prop^{rs} or paid money for Cutting or Clearing Rodes and to do and act in that regard as they shall think proper.

5th. To Chuse a Treasurer and Collector.

6th. To Chuse a Committee to Lay out Rodes &c.

Dated at Chelmsford the 27th day of July 1765.

A true Copy of the Original Notification made Out by me in Consequence of an application for that Purpose on file, and posted the time Required.

Exam^d per Sampson Stoddard Jun

Prop^r Clerk.

The record of the important meeting thus called is as follows :

At a meeting of the Grantees of the Tract of Land Lying in the Province of New Hamp^{re} called Monadnock No. four holden at the house of Capt. Oliver Barron Innholder in Chelmsford on Monday the 19th day of August 1765

Chose Col. Stoddard Mod^r.

Whereas the Grantees are Injoyed by grant of said Township to build fifty houses and make them comfortable habitations on said Tract of Land such shares to build as the Grantees shall determine and also to have twelve acres of Land Cleared and fitted for Tillage, Pasturing and Mowing and to add an acre more annually (till an Incorporation) on each subject to the Duty of Settlement,

Therefore Voted that the said settlements be done and performed by the following Grantees and in the proportion hereinafter declared, Namely Col. Stoddard eighteen, Edmund Grouard two, Jacob Treadwell junior one, Jonathan Lovewell one, Benjamin Bellows two, Matthew Thornton three, Nath^l Brooks one, Thomas Spaulding one, John Honey one, Nath^l Treadwell one, Abel Lawrence three, Paul March one, James Reed four, heirs of George Libbey one, Charles Treadwell one, John Stevens one, Daniel Millen one, Jonathan Blanchard one, Jonathan Willson two, John Woods one, Sampson Stoddard Jun. one, Benjamin Edwards one and the heirs of Jere^h Libbey one, by building and Clearing in such way and manner as to fulfill the Grant.

2dly. Voted that the sum of five Dollars on each share, two lots to a share, be assessed and Immediately Collected by the Treasurer of this Propriety to answer and Pay the Necessary Charges and Expenses already arisen and arising in Bringing forward the settlement of said Township.

3dly. And whereas the speedy settlement of said Township Depends much upon having a Good saw Mill Built there as soon as may be,

Voted that in consideration of Col. Stoddard's conveying to Mr. Daniel Millen two lots of Land then having a Mill plase on em for encouragement of his undertaking the arduous Task of Building and Keeping a saw Mill in repair to be fit to go, within fourteen months that said Stoddard be Intitled to Draw out of the Treasury Twenty pounds Lawful money and that sum to be in full for the said two lots of Land.

4thly. Voted that Col. Stoddard and Mr. Sampson Stoddard Jr. be a Committee to Receive, Examine and allow all accounts of any person or Persons who have done service for the Prop^y and that upon their order to the Treasurer he is Directed to pay the Same accordingly.

5thly. Voted that Jonathan Blanchard be Treasurer to this Propriety and Collector of the several Rates and Taxes that is or shall be raised untill the Prop^y order the contrary.

6. Voted that Mess^{rs} Daniel Millen, James Reed and Benjamin Bigelow be a Committee, or the Major Part of them to Mark, Lay out and clere all necessary Rodes in said Township rendering their accounts to acceptance untill the Prop^r order the contrary. Then the Meeting was Dismiss^d.

Attest Sampson Stoddard

A true copy Exam^d

Mod :

per Sampson Stoddard Jun.

P. C.

It will be noticed that in the last vote of the proprietors at their meeting, August 19th, 1765, the name of Benjamin Bigelow appears for the first time upon the records of Monadnock No. 4, associated with the names of Daniel Millen and James Reed. From this time forward these three men are to be regarded as "the fathers of the town," for no others probably were equally efficient in labor and sacrifice for promoting its prosperity.

Daniel Millen (or Mellen, as the name was soon spelled) and James Reed were owners of lots under the original allotment, but Benjamin Bigelow doubtless purchased his property of some one of the grantees. It is believed that he removed to Monadnock No. 4 as early as 1761 or 1762, as he was the father of the first white child born in the township. This child, Beulah Bigelow, was born May 10th, 1762. The probability is that Benjamin Bigelow negotiated for land here with some one of the first company of grantees, and that when the township passed into the hands of the second company and was divided into lots, with separate owners, his rightful claims for improvements were duly regarded.

Nearly two years elapsed after the meeting of the proprietors, August 19th, 1765, before they were called together again for business. Important matters now required attention, as we learn from the notification of the clerk, which called the proprietors to "assemble and meet at the house of Captain Oliver Barron, innkeeper in Chelmsford, on Wednesday, the first day of July next, 1767," and as we learn from the records of the meeting (but not from the notification of the clerk) "at 10 o'clock before noon," to act upon a

long list of articles, the most important of which were the following :

To see if the Proprietors will elect a new Clerk, Treasurer & Collector.

To choose a Committee to fix a proper and convenient place for setting a meeting house on and to lay out land for a Burying Yard.

To choose a Committee or Committees for Rodes and Bridges that may then be thought proper.

To choose a Committee to sell the Delinquent Prop^r Lands for Taxes due already or that may be raised.

To see what encouragement the Proprietors will give to any Person who will undertake to build a good Corn Mill in said town.

The meeting called by the notification above, a part of which is copied, was held at the house of Oliver Barron, innholder in Chelmsford, July 1st, 1767. As usual, Colonel Stoddard was chosen moderator, when it was

Voted that Jonathan Blanchard be Proprietor's Clerk.

Voted that Messrs Daniel Millen, James Reed and Benjamin Bigelow be a Committee to fix a proper place for setting a Meeting house for Public Worship and to lay out Land for a Burying Yard.

Voted, that Messrs Daniel Millen, James Reed and Benjamin Bigelow be a Committee to sell the Delinquent Proprietor's Lands for non-Payment of Taxes.

The other articles pass^d over.

The committee above named to fix upon a site for a meeting-house and to lay out a cemetery seem to have failed, for some reason, to do the business assigned them, and so these matters came up for action at the next meeting of the proprietors, which was holden more than a year later.

This meeting was legally called and held "at the house of Captain Thomas Cowdin, innholder in Fitchburg, in the county of Worcester, and in the province of Massachusetts Bay," October 11th, 1768.

Colonel Stoddard was chosen moderator, James Reed, Esq., was chosen treasurer, and Mr. Daniel Millen, collector.

Voted that Messrs Daniel Millen, John Farrer, James Reed, Benjamin Bigelow and Silas Wetherbee or the Majority of them, be a Committee to fix a proper place for setting a Meeting house and to lay out Land for a Burying yard.

Voted that Messrs Aaron Gearfield, John Millen, Benjamin Davidson, Isaac Applin and James Reed be a Committee, or the Maj^r part of them, to mark, lay out and Clear and Bridge any Rodes wanted in said town.

Voted that five Dollars be Raised on each share of the Grantees, two Lots to a share, and be immediately paid to the Collector.

Voted the sum of fourteen pounds L^a M^o (lawful money) out of the said sum be appropriated to Pay for Preaching, and that the four Sabbath already preached by Mr. Parker be paid out of the said fourteen pounds, and that Mr. Benj^a Bigelow be a Committee man to provide a suitable Gentleman to Preach so long as the said sum holds out.

Voted the sum of £20.0 L^a M^o be paid to Col. Stoddard In Consideration of his Conveying to Mr. Tiffany two Lots of Land to Build a grist Mill on, and that sum to be in full for the same.

Voted, that the Wages that shall be allowed to Each man for doing Labor on the high Ways do not exceed three shillings per day.

Voted that the Rev. John Millen be earnestly desired at the cost and Charge of this Proprietary, to repair to Portsmouth as soon as his pleasure suits and make application to the General Court of New Hampshire for a confirmation of the meetings of the Proprietors of this town, and for a full power to be given to the Proprietors to sell Delinquents' Land for the non Payment of Taxes.

Other matters of no general importance received attention at this meeting.

From the fact that the committee appointed more than a year before to select a site for a meeting-house and lay out a burying-yard was reappointed and enlarged at the meeting October 11th, 1768, we are to infer that there were obstacles in the way of accomplishing these objects which it took time and careful management to remove. No central village had as yet sprung up to influence decisively the matter of location. The settlers, still few in number, were spread over a large territory, and for a considerable period it was doubtful where they could best be accommodated in their public gatherings. Rarely can a church be located even now without much thought, long debates, and a compromise between conflicting interests; and we cannot tax the committee first appointed with inefficiency if, after the lapse of fifteen months, they found themselves unable to report substantial progress.

From the record of the meeting of the proprietors, October 11th, 1768, just given, it also appears that the delinquent tax-

payers in Monadnock No. 4 resisted the sale of their lands to **make** good the claims of the collector. This they doubtless **did** because they had discovered an illegality of some kind in the action of the proprietors regarding this matter, and so an agent was appointed and despatched to the General Court to ask for a confirmation of the proceedings of the proprietors, and such action as should leave no ground for dispute in the future. This agent, the Rev. John Mellen, was a younger brother of the Daniel Mellen who was so prominent in the settlement of Fitzwilliam, and was at this time pastor of the church in Sterling, Mass. The records give us no information in regard to the result of his mission, but we may conclude that it was successful, as we hear of no further trouble in regard to selling delinquent lands. It appears, moreover, from the record of the same meeting of the proprietors, that public worship was maintained in Monadnock No. 4 certainly as early as 1768, for Mr. Nehemiah Parker, a graduate of Harvard College in 1763, served the people here in the ministry during the autumn of 1768, and a part at least of the winter following. Mr. Parker was ordained as pastor at Hubbardston, Mass., June 13th, 1770.

The next meeting of the proprietors was regularly called by Jonathan Blanchard, clerk, and was holden at the house of James Reed, Esq., in Monadnock No. 4, November 14th, 1769. This was their first business meeting held within the township, and it is plain from the proceedings that, from this time forth, all parties expected the actual settlers to come to the front and take largely the responsibility of conducting public affairs. James Reed, Esq., was the moderator of the meeting, and was chosen proprietors' clerk.

John Mellen was chosen treasurer, Daniel Mellen, collector, and James Reed, John Fassett, and Isaac Applin, assessors.

The committee appointed to examine and allow accounts against the proprietors consisted of James Reed, Edward Kindal (Kendall), and Isaac Applin, while Aaron Garfield, Daniel Mellen, and John Mellen were directed to look up "the bounds at the north-east corner of the township and make report at the next meeting."

James Reed, John Mellen, and John Fassett were chosen a "committee to lay out all necessary roads in said Monadnock."

Voted that two Dollars be raised on each lot of the Grantees and to be immediately paid to the Collector, to pay the charges already arisen and towards Building a meeting House in said township and to pay for preaching Next Sumner.

Voted and chose James Reed, John Millen and Edward Kindal a Committee to provide stuff and Build a Meeting House in said Township so far as to inclose the outside and Lay the Lourd floor.

Voted to Capt. Silas Wetherby £13.6.8 L. M. for his encorrigment for building a saw mill in said Township.

After attending to other matters of less interest the meeting "was dismissed."

At the same meeting, as appears by an additional record, Joseph Swift, Thomas Tolman, John Gouldsberry, Edward Kendall, and Caleb Winch were chosen "Highway Surveyors," and sworn, taking the Rules in law for their direction." They took the oath December 4th, 1769.

It will be noticed that new names frequently appear, from this time forth, in the records of the proprietors' meetings, which proves that the population was gradually increasing, though as late as 1770 it was far from being large. In 1767 the Legislature of the province made provision for taking a census of the inhabitants and an inventory of the property liable to taxation in each town in New Hampshire, and fixed the time for the same in December of that year. Neither the value of the ratable estates nor the number of polls in Monadnock No. 4 seems to have been preserved, if it was ever obtained; but ninety-three is given as the sum total of the population, while Rindge had at that time two hundred and ninety-eight inhabitants and Richmond three hundred and thirty-eight.

It is not deemed necessary to give hereafter the legal notification for the several meetings of the proprietors, as the measures adopted will indicate the nature of all the important business considered.

The proprietors met at the house of James Reed, Esq., on Wednesday, April 18th, 1770, at one o'clock P.M., when Major John Farrer was chosen moderator.

As the report of the committee concerning the site for the meeting-house and the location of a cemetery was to come before the meeting, it was adjourned for one hour and a half, doubtless to give an opportunity for all to view the place or places selected. After the adjournment the committee reported as follows :

We the subscribers being a Committee chosen by the Proprietors of Monadnock No. 4 in the Province of New Hampshire to fix a proper place for setting a meeting house and to lay out a burying yard, have unanimously agreed that the meeting house be sett on the Easterly part of Lott No 13 in the 7 Rang of Lotts as they are marked and numbered on the Plan of said Township, and Like Wise that there be five acres of Land laid out for Public use where Mr. Jason Stone's child is buried.

Monadnock No. 4, 18th of April 1770.

John Farrar, James Reed, Benjamin Bigelow, Silas Witherby Committee.

It will be noticed that the chairman of this committee, Mr. Daniel Mellen, did not sign this report ; and the reason of this is doubtless to be found in the fact that he did not reside in this township, though he had erected a dwelling-house here, and aided liberally every public enterprise.

After considering the report given above the proprietors

Voted that the meeting house be sett on the Lott number 13 agreeable to the report of the Committee, and James Reed Esqr gave five acres of Land to the Propriety to set the Meeting house on and for other public uses. Also

Voted and chose James Reed, Edward Kendall and John Millen a Committee to provide for the Rasing of the Meeting house.

Voted that fifty dollars be laid out to pay for preaching to the inhabitants this present year out of the money already assessed.

Voted that Daniel Mellen and Major John Farrer be a Committee to provide a preacher and to see him provided for.

Voted that Daniel Mellen, Aaron Garfield and John Mellen be a Committee to Preambulate and Renew the Bounds of the Town.

Voted a tax of twelve shillings on each Lott in said Township Liable to Taxis and the same to be Assessed accordingly.

Voted that there be a Lowed four shillings to each man for each day's work Don on the Roads in said Township, from the 1. Day of May to the last day of September next, and two shillings pr. day for each pair of Oxen, and that no man work without the knowledge of the Sorvair

and take his Reca'e for each day's work, cutting windfalls acrost the Road only excepted, which is to be done without Notis from a Sorvair.

This meeting of the proprietors certainly indicates progress in the most important matters appertaining to the welfare of the town. By reference to the plan of the township and the table showing the drawing and assignment of the lots, it will be seen that Lot 13, Range 7 belonged to Charles Treadwell ; but it seems quite certain that before the date of this meeting Mr. Reed had bought both of Mr. Treadwell's lots. A few months later (in November, 1770) Mr. Reed deeded the west end of Lot 13, Range 7—probably half the lot—to Benjamin Bigelow, and in August, 1771, he deeded to Rev. Benjamin Brigham a part of the east end of the lot, on which Mr. Brigham erected a dwelling-house within a few years. This house was located a short distance east of the burying-ground, the present house of Henry Handy occupying about the same site. Mr. Reed did not make a formal transfer of the five acres which he gave the town till some years later, his deed of gift being dated May 23d, 1780. It is understood that the north-east corner of the meeting-house that was at length erected on this lot was about where the old hearse-house stood for so many years.

It will be remembered that by the conditions of their grant, which was made May 1st, 1765, the grantees were required to build a meeting-house within five years, and after six years maintain constant preaching. That they made laudable efforts to carry out their part of the contract to the letter is certain. There was not a little delay about completing the house of worship, which, under the circumstances, was doubtless unavoidable ; but before the six years had expired they had settled a minister, as we shall presently see. Then, as often since, it was found easier to obtain a pastor than to build a church edifice and make it comfortable and convenient in the wilderness.

The location of the meeting-house having been thus definitely fixed upon April 18th, 1770, it is evident that the building committee appointed about five months before proceeded at once with their work. It is understood that the frame was

raised in May, and consequently considerable preparation must have been made before the exact location was determined. From the general tenor of the records, it would seem that while the house was brought into a condition to be used within a reasonable time, after that the work proceeded very slowly, for which perhaps the smallness of the appropriations may partly account.

The next meeting of the proprietors was held at the house of James Reed, innholder, on September 26th, 1770, with John Farrar moderator, and after an adjournment of an hour and a half (probably to see what progress had been made upon the meeting-house) proceeded to business. A report of the committee upon the boundary-lines of the township was presented, and this was the result : they had "measured from the south-east corner of Middle Monadnock (Jaffrey) and run west the whole length of that line, and they find that it runs in upon Monadnock No. 4 the length of one range of lots or thereabout"—in other words, that with the dimensions claimed for it, our neighbor on the north-east overlapped the territory supposed to belong to Monadnock No. 4 about one hundred and sixty rods, taking from the latter township not only the half lots in the third range, but a portion of the adjacent lots in the fourth range. As Jaffrey was the older town, it could rightfully claim its full size, and the matter does not seem to have been called up again.

To resume the record of the meeting, September 26th, 1770 :

Voted that one dollar be raised on each lot of the Grantees in order to be laid out in boarding and shingling the meeting house, and one dollar more to be worked out on the roads, at three shillings per day for each man after the first day of October next.

On the 4th article that the Proprietors defer (prefer) to hear Mr. Benjamin Brigham four Sabbaths more on probation, past in the affirmative.

At the next meeting of the proprietors, which was held at the house of James Reed, Esq., on Wednesday, November 7th, 1770, it was

Voted to give Mr. Benjamin Brigham a call to settle in the work of the Ministry in said Monadnock No 4.

Voted to give the said Brigham, for a settlement, in case he accept of

our Invitation and is actually settled in the work of the Ministry and ordained a Pastor of a church and people in said Monadnock No 4, besides the two lots of land granted for the first settled minister, Eighty pounds Lawful Money, to be raised by a tax on each lot of land liable to Tax in said Monadnock No. 4, the one half of the said Eighty pounds to be paid in one year from this day and the other half in two years from this day.

Voted to pay to said Brigham in case he settle as aforesaid, a yearly Salary by a Tax on each lot as is above mentioned, as follows, viz. from the time he shall give his answer of acceptance, after the rate of fifty-three pounds six shillings and eight pence per annum, to be paid in one year from the time of the said answer of acceptance and so on yearly for three years, then to ad forty shillings per year untill it comes to sixty six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, to be paid yearly so long as Mr. Brigham shall continue [to fulfill the work of] a Gospel Minister and in relation of a Pastor to a church and people in said No. 4.

The words in brackets, "to fulfill the work of," it was voted to erase at a subsequent meeting, and this the clerk did as he was directed to do.

Voted that the sum of eight shillings and six pence Lawful Money, on each lot be assessed and collected to pay for one half of the settlement and first year's salary in case the said Mr. Brigham shall accept as above-said.

Voted that the sum of two shillings and six pence on each lot be assessed and collected to pay for preaching for the time past and for what time Mr. Brigham hath already ingaged.

Voted and chose Mr. Daniel Mellen, Joseph Hemingway, James Reed, Jonathan Lock and Edward Kendall a Committee to Wate upon Mr. Benjamin Brigham with the votes of the Propriety in regard of the unameous (unanimous) vote in giving him a call to settle in the work of the ministry in said Monadnock No. 4.

The next meeting was held January 29th, 1771, and Mr. Brigham's letter of acceptance having been read, the proprietors voted

their universal acceptance of the answer and their thanks to Mr. Brigham and likewise voted fifteen rods of the south end of the common land by the meeting house for Mr. Brigham's use.

Mr. Brigham's letter of acceptance, the confession of faith adopted at the organization of the church, and the account of the ordination are all found in the proprietors' records; but in

this work they will more properly be inserted in the chapter on early ecclesiastical history.

On Wednesday, February 20th, 1771, the proprietors completed their arrangements for the ordination of Mr. Brigham by voting that "the day for the ordination shall be Wednesday, the 27th day of March next."

Also they "agreed with Mr. Brigham and Voted that the Proprietors and Mr. Brigham send to the following churches to assist in the Council at the ordination, viz., Marlborough, Westborough, Shrewsbury, Lancaster, Southborough, New Ipswich, Swanzey, Royalston, Keene, and Winchendon."

Jonathan Lock, Benjamin Bigelow, and James Reed were chosen as a committee to assist in sending out the letters missive, while Mr. John Mellen agreed to "provide for the Council and other Gentlemen that shall attend the Ordination, for twenty-five dollars." A committee was raised, composed of Benjamin Bigelow, Joseph Hemingway, Jonathan Lock, Edward Kendall, and James Reed, "to attend the Ordination in behalf of the Proprietors."

It is to be remembered that up to this time no church or religious society had been organized in Monadnock No. 4.

Monadnock No 4 March 27. 1771.

This day Mr. Benjamin Brigham was ordained to the work of the ministry in this place, at the request of the Church and Proprietors, by the assistance of the churches in Marlborough, Westborough, Royalston, Winchendon, Keene and Swanzey.

The proprietors held what seems to have been their annual meeting, June 19th, 1771, and in addition to appointing the usual officers, accepting roads, etc.,

Voted that one dollar on each lot liable to Taxes in Monadnock No. 4 be assessed and collected immediately to help pay outstanding debts and towards getting stuf and working on the Meeting house.

March 4th, 1772, the Proprietors

Voted the sum of one pound four shillings and tenpence to be assessed on each lot in said Monadnock No. 4 to be collected immediately, £0. 9. 10. to pay Mr. Brigham the 2^d half of his settlement and two years' salary, and one dollar to be worked out on the Roads and one

Dollar be paid towards finishing the Meeting house and three shillings to pay outstanding debts.

Also

Voted to not Except (accept) of the Grist Mill built by Doctor Gideon Tiffany in Monadnock No. 4.

Also

"to put in execution a Bond given by Gideon Tiffany, to Build and Keep in good Repair a water Grist Mill in Monadnock No. 4," on one of certain lots named, "or come to some proper settlement with the said Tiffany in regard of said mill, as it is not Excepted (accepted) by the Proprietors."

October 7th, 1772, the Proprietors

Voted and chose Mr. Joseph Hemingway, Edward Kendall and Samuel Kendall a Committee to lay out the Pew ground in the meeting house in Monadnock No 4.

Voted to sell the Pew ground in the meeting house at public vendue amongst the Proprietors of Monadnock No 4, and likewise put it to vote to see if those that bought the Pews should take it for their seats, and Past in the Negative. Likewise Voted that the two hind seats in the Body of seats should be made into pews.

Voted to paint the meeting house in Monadnock No. 4.

Voted that the Pulpit and Body of seats and Ministers Pue and Deacons' seat be built as quick as may be,

and raised a committee "to see the work done," consisting of Joseph Hemingway, Samuel Kendall, and Elijah Clays. "Voted that the money raised by the sale of the Pews be laid out towards finishing the meeting house," the committee on the sale to "collect the money that the same shall fetch" and apply it accordingly.

At an adjourned meeting thirteen days later—viz., October 20th, 1772, the committee to sell the pew ground was directed to "give a list of the Pews sold by them, the number of the Pew, to whom sold, the price given for each pew, to the Clerk," and his entry of the same in the proprietors' book "shall be a sufficient title to the purchasers and their heirs."

The pew on the east side of the pulpit marked No. 2 was set apart for the use of the minister.

Voted that the sides and ends of the Meeting House on the inside shall be sealed up to the bottom of the windows and the windows cased at the Proprietors' cost.

The committee to see this work of sealing and casing done consisted of Joseph Hemingway, Samuel Kendall, and Elijah Clays. They were to attend also to the painting of the meeting-house.

The committee appointed to sell the pews made their report to the clerk as directed. The result of the sale was as follows :

No.			
1	James Reed and his heirs at...	10.	Dolls.
10	James Reed	"	6.
18	James Reed	"	4.75
15	Henry Willard	"	6.
5	Edward Kendall	"	10.25
13	John Mayhew	"	6.25
4	Elijah Clays	"	7.
6	Samuel Kendall	"	8.
14	Nathan Platts	"	6.50
16	Nathan Mixer	"	6.
11	Thomas Wetherby	"	5.25
12	John Mellen	"	4.50
8	Levi Brigham	"	6.
7	Joseph Hemingway	"	5.50
17	John Lock	"	4.00
9	James Reed Jun	"	5.
3	Daniel Mellen	"	6.75

The number of pews was eighteen, and they brought at the auction sale one hundred and seven dollars and seventy-five cents. This list furnishes, without doubt, the names of the most active business men in the township at the close of the year 1772. Of the meeting-house itself some account will be given hereafter. That it was far from being completed at the date just given is plain, for at the meeting of the proprietors, March 31st, 1773, a tax was laid "to finish the Meeting House."

At this meeting also the first legal action was taken regarding the incorporation of Monadnock No. 4 as a town of New Hampshire, for James Reed, John Mellen, and Joseph Hemingway were appointed a committee

to Repair to the Govner and Council of this Province to have this Township incorporated into a Town and to have Town priviledgs, as soon as may be.

The circumstances attending the incorporation of the town will be considered in the chapter on early town history. It is not easy now to define in exact terms the relations existing between the proprietors and the town after the incorporation. Both organizations had rights and privileges which it is easy to see might sometimes have seemed to clash, but as the parties interested were so nearly identical, the general action of each appears to have been in harmony with that of the other. The proprietors continued to lay taxes to "finish the meeting-house" and pay the salary of the minister, but about all the other business appears to have been done by the town organization.

In February, 1776, the proprietors appointed a committee consisting of Major Brigham, Deacon Lock, and Major Farrar

to enquire of the undertakers that was to finish the meeting house, and why it is not done, and cause them to do it forthwith.

Again May 11th, 1777, a new committee consisting of Major Asa Brigham, Stephen Harris, and Samuel Patrick was raised

to see that the work on the meeting house was finished, and to commence an action against the undertakers in case the work is neglected.

And in June 28th, 1780,

Voted and Chose Mr. Nathaniel Muzzy, Abner Stone, and John Whitney a Committee to see that the undertakers finish the meeting house or to sue them for the fulfillment of the same.

As this is the last vote that is passed of this character, it is evident that the "undertakers" proceeded to complete the job in a satisfactory manner. A year earlier the "undertakers" considered that they had fulfilled their contract. In the warrant for a meeting to be held June 9th, 1779, the following article appears :

8ly. To see if the Proprietors will except (accept) of the Meeting House and Discharge the undertakers and act thereon as they shall think proper.

As the article was passed over, it is plain that the proprietors did not consider that the job was properly completed,

but it required the action of a year later to bring the "undertakers" or contractors to do their duty. It does not state who the contractors were anywhere in the records, but as the meeting-house had been ten years in process of erection, it is plain that they belonged to the town.

This meeting, June 9th, 1779, was the first proprietors' meeting that was held in the meeting-house.

At the proprietors' meeting, December 8th, 1779, the articles of charter respecting their obligation to maintain constant preaching, and also their original contract with Rev. Mr. Brigham, were considered, and a vote was taken to fulfil the latter. No definite action concerning the matter first mentioned appears to have been taken, as they probably thought it wise to await the developments of time; but the following votes were passed:

Voted Mr. Anger and others to the number of fifteen, the vacant room inside galleries of the meeting house Back of the hind seats, to Build pews they building them upon their own cost and taking them for their seats and maintaining the windows.

Voted that Mr. Samuel Osborn and others to the No. of five (have) the vacant Room over the stairs in the meeting house, to build pews, they building them upon their own cost and taking them for their seats.

All this shows a curious contrast with the methods prevailing a century later. The action just given respecting the grant of pew ground to Mr. Anger and others to the number of fifteen was in consequence of a petition for the same signed by John Whitney, Matthew Osborn, Joseph Stone, Benjamin Byam, Joseph Foristall, Samuel Stone, Daniel Gould, Solomon Badcock, David Emery Boynton, Ebenezer Boutwell, Ebenezer Potter, Benjamin Harris, Asa Brigham, Joseph Scott, and Benjamin Anger. Most of these were representatives of families intimately associated with the history of Fitzwilliam.

June 29th, 1780, Rev. Mr. Brigham proposed to the proprietors "to sink one fifth part of his salary for the present year" if they would pay all arrears, a proposition which was at once accepted.

At the same meeting the proprietors

Voted and chose Deacon John Lock, Samuel Patrick and Ensing Samuel Kendall a Committee to state the Rev^d Mr. Brighams Sallery by the articles of Life

Voted the Above Committee have full power to state the articles of Life above mentioned.

And this committee reported as follows :

To Lieut Ephraim Boyington (Boynton) Cleark & Treasurer for the proprietors of Fitzwilliam We the subscribers a committee appointed by the proprietors to state the Rev^d Mr. Brighams Salary for the preasant year have stated it at one hundred and thirty double and have directed y^e assessors to make their assessment accordingly You are desired to make a record of this

Samuel Patrick	} Committee.
John Locke	
Samuel Kendall	

Fitzwilliam 5th of December 1780.

A few words are omitted by mistake. Mr. Brigham's salary at this time was about sixty-five pounds, and the committee doubled it. This was on account of the depreciation of the currency ; the next year the proprietors to " pay him only the nominal sum of his stated salary, and pay it in hard money."

September 5th, 1781, the proprietors heard the report of a committee previously appointed to confer with Rev. Mr. Brigham respecting the depreciation in the value of his salary, as it had been collected and paid in continental bills, and it was voted to pay him only the nominal salary, but to pay it in hard money.

April 2d, 1782, the proprietors considered a difficulty with Mr. Jonas Knight relative to his not serving as collector, as he had engaged to do ; but the whole matter was settled by his promise to pay Rev. Mr. Brigham " twelve bushels of Rie in six weeks." *

* Doubtless there were office-seekers in those days, but Jonas Knight did not relish the collectorship ; and it bordered on the ludicrous to compel such a modest man to pay for his temerity in declining office by measuring out six bushels of his rye as a gift to his minister.

August 23d, 1786, the proprietors ordered some changes to be made "in the two hind seats in the side galleries" of the meeting-house for the convenience of those occupying the adjacent seats and pews, but that it should be done "at the cost of the owners of said pews, and that fifteen persons to each pew be added to sit in said pews and to take them for their seats so long as they hold the right in them."

In September, 1791, the proprietors "Voted to put in the two upper end windowes and the glass over the Pulpit in the meeting house and to paint and putty them in well," and to give the work to the lowest bidder.

So far as the proprietors' records show, the care of the roads and bridges in the township passed from the proprietors to the town itself soon after the act of incorporation; but the support of the minister, repairs and changes in the meeting-house, and the care of the ministerial and school lands belonged to the proprietors up to 1798.

During the year before—viz., November 17th, 1797, the proprietors appointed "Deac. John Fassitt, Deac. John Locke and Capt. John Bowker a Committee to propose to Rev. Benjamin Brigham to dissolve the contract with regard to paying him his salary in case the Town will contract with him for that purpose."

After an hour's adjournment (evidently for consultation) they

Voted that the Proprietors will relinquish all their right to the Meeting House in said Town, if the Town will pay what salary is now due to Rev. Benjamin Brigham from the Proprietors and contract to pay him in future,

and then appointed a committee to present this offer to the town. Also

Voted to discharge the Rev. Benjamin Brigham from the contract he made with the Proprietors on his discharging said Proprietors from the contract they made with him to pay him his salary and the Town will contract with him to pay his salary in future.

The committee to present this matter to the town accom-

plished the object for which it was raised ; and January 29th, 1798, the proprietors

Voted to accept the release from Mr Benjamin Brigham as reported by the Committee.

LATER AND LAST ACTS OF THE PROPRIETORS.

October 17th, 1792, the proprietors chose as their clerk and treasurer Mr. Nahum Parker, who a few years before had removed from Shrewsbury, Mass., to Fitzwilliam.

Being a man of good business education and habits, all the records and accounts of the proprietors from this date are very full and easy of comprehension. Mr. Parker served the proprietors as their clerk and treasurer for twenty-three years, or until the winding up of the affairs of the proprietorship, which took place in 1815. From 1798 the town had paid the salary of the pastor and attended to all the repairs made upon the meeting-house ; but the care of the ministerial and school lots and the collection of the interest upon the leases of the same still devolved upon the proprietors through their treasurer.

These rents were duly collected by Mr. Parker, and after being scrupulously accounted for upon his records, were paid over to the selectmen of the town, to be applied to the payment of the salary of the minister and the support of the schools respectively.

Before the closing up of the business of the proprietors they directed that the rents above mentioned should be paid directly to the selectmen of the town rather than to a treasurer of their appointment.

December 18th, 1815, Joseph Brigham and Charles Bowker, being a committee of the proprietors appointed for that purpose, examined the accounts and vouchers of the treasurer, and finding all correct, made a full and final settlement with him. At that time the sum of four dollars and sixty-eight cents remained in the hands of Mr. Parker, which was doubtless disposed of in accordance with some unrecorded provision of the proprietors.

In 1797 federal money was first used, in keeping his accounts, by Treasurer Parker.

CHAPTER VI.

EARLY ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY, 1768-1800.*

Religious Privileges—Meeting-House—Its Appearance and Arrangement—Mr. Nehemiah Parker's Ministry—Mr. Benjamin Brigham's Candidacy and Settlement—Council—Church Organized—Its Members—Half-Way Covenant—Habits of Congregation—Parsonage—Mr. Brigham's Sickness and Death.

THE records of the past are very instructive ; and this is as true of the history of our churches as it possibly can be of the history of our towns, State and nation.

In tracing the events that led to the settlement of this town, we have seen that the proprietors of it, whether they were willing or unwilling, were under the necessity of furnishing religious privileges as one of the conditions under which they received their grant. It was not a matter discretionary with the individual owners of this territory whether or not they should have a house for public worship and a gospel minister, as one after another they contracted for their lots, cleared their land, built their log-houses, and established their homes in this wilderness, for the men of whom they purchased were obliged, by the fundamental conditions of their charter, to make provision for all this from the beginning. Two of the two hundred and fifty-eight lots, or one share of the one hundred and twenty-nine shares, must be reserved, as we have seen, for a gift to the first settled minister, and of another share he was to have the use, while within five years they must erect a house for public worship and, after one year more, maintain constant preaching.

The proprietors upon whom were imposed these conditions, we are to remember, never became settlers on this territory

* In the preparation of this chapter it has been necessary to allude to a few of the facts already set forth in bringing together the most interesting and important of the acts of the proprietors.

with one exception, but resided in various towns in Eastern Massachusetts and South-eastern New Hampshire ; and when we reflect upon all the circumstances of the case, upon the fact that their interests were mainly elsewhere, and the almost insurmountable difficulties encountered here by the actual settlers, we are surprised that they ever erected a meeting-house at all, rather than that so many years elapsed before it was finished. This house, as already noticed, stood upon the hill near the school-house in District No. 8, the north-east corner of the building being very near or upon the spot where " the old hearse-house " stood.

November 14th, 1769, the proprietors chose

James Reed, John Mellen and Edward Kendall a Committee to provide stuf and build a meeting house in said township so far as to inclose the outside and Lay the Lour floor.

This was before the site for the house was fixed upon through the recommendation of another committee, which was done April 18th, 1770. At this last-mentioned meeting the same men were appointed " a committee to provide for the raising of the meeting-house."

It appears that the house was raised in the month of May, 1770. The tradition is that every man in town was present and aided in the work. The timbers were of oak just taken from the forest, and very heavy ; and when the men had raised the first tier of the frame breast high, they found themselves unable to raise it any higher. At the same time they dared not let it down, for some of them would doubtless have been crushed by it, and either killed or maimed for life. In this emergency two men arrived from Rindge, by whose timely aid the danger was averted, and the frame went up. Dr. Cummings has preserved the following, though he by no means would have vouched for its truth—viz., that Rev. Mr. Brigham afterward said that he never knew swearing do any good but once, and that was while raising this first part of the meeting-house. This reported saying of Mr. Brigham is of very doubtful authenticity, for

1. It was not like him to say anything of the kind ; and

2. He does not appear to have come to Monadnock No. 4 till after the meeting-house was raised, since more than four months after the raising the proprietors voted that they would prefer to hear him four Sabbaths more as a candidate for settlement. There may have been profanity at the raising, for it was a common vice in that day, and probably strong drink was indulged in, according to the universal custom of the times.

The meeting-house, though a number of years passed by before it was completed, was a substantial though plain building, and for that day and region somewhat spacious and convenient. It fronted the south, though it had doors upon the east and west sides also. The pulpit was upon the north end or side toward the cemetery opposite the south door, and over it was the sounding-board, a huge structure then universal in all meeting-houses of any pretension, and ignorantly supposed to aid the acoustic properties of the house. Just below the pulpit, in front of it, was the deacons' seat, a place of honor, where the two godly "fathers of the church" sat on ordinary as well as extraordinary occasions.

The house was furnished in the central or what we should call the body part with long slips or seats, which seem to have been free, while square pews were arranged next to the walls both below and in the galleries. These pews were private property, and some of them appear to have been built at different times by their respective owners, and, for anything we know to the contrary, according to their individual tastes and with various kinds of lumber. It does not appear that the house was ever painted within except about the pulpit and the window-casings, and some time elapsed before a coat of paint was put upon the outside. The luxury of window-blinds upon a church or the best private houses was then unknown in this region. For a number of years the interior of the edifice must have presented a singular appearance, with its vacant places for pews, long seats, and various styles of workmanship.

On the front or south side of the meeting-house was an open common, which was used especially for military drill. West of the house, and at a suitable distance, was a long row of sheds

for the protection of the horses and sometimes of the oxen that drew through the snow loads of worshippers.

The entire establishment would not be deemed as ornamental and reflecting credit upon the taste of the builders and owners at the present day, but it was measurably convenient, and for a part of the year at least comfortable, as this word was then understood. Of course there was no heating apparatus in it, but the pastor's house was near, with its great fires for warming during the intermission, and at a little later date foot-stoves were a part of the common household furniture. This, with some occasional repairs and improvements, was the religious home of the entire population of Fitzwilliam for more than forty years, though we have no exact data respecting the year when it was first occupied for public worship, and no account of its dedication, if it was ever dedicated. For some years before occupying the meeting-house the people held their Sabbath services in private houses or at the inn of Mr. Reed, as circumstances or necessity required. Religious meetings during the week were then very uncommon.

As early as 1768 preaching was maintained in Monadnock No. 4 certainly for a part of each year. During the autumn of that year and a considerable part of the winter following the preacher was Mr. Nehemiah Parker, who had graduated at Harvard College in 1763. Soon after leaving this place he became pastor of the Congregational Church in Hubbardston, Mass., having been ordained under a great oak upon the common in that town before a church edifice had been erected.

Whether there was constant preaching in Monadnock No. 4 after Mr. Parker left and before the arrival of Mr. Benjamin Brigham, about the middle of the year 1770, is uncertain. Mr. Brigham was a native of Marlborough, Mass., and had graduated at Harvard College in 1764. No church or ecclesiastical society had then been formed here, but the proprietors, as already noticed, after a candidacy of a number of months, made out a formal call to Mr. Brigham to settle with the people here in the gospel ministry. The call was unanimous. An affirmative answer was returned to this in the January following. In the call ample provision seems to have

been made for Mr. Brigham's pecuniary support, as we have seen in the preceding chapter; for according to the fundamental conditions imposed by the Masonian proprietors, two lots of land of one hundred acres each had been reserved, which were to be given outright to the first settled minister; also two lots more had been reserved for the "use of the ministry," of which he would have the proper benefit.*

Moreover, a settlement was offered him of eighty pounds, lawful money. This was no part of his salary, but gifts like this were the rule rather than the exception a century ago, when our churches and religious societies invited the men of their choice to become their pastors. The settlement was of the nature of an inducement to accept the call. In this case the eighty pounds were estimated at a later period to have been worth two hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-seven cents. An annual salary was offered amounting to fifty-three pounds, six shillings, and eight pence sterling, which after three years was to be increased by two pounds annually till it should amount to sixty-six pounds, thirteen shillings, and four pence sterling, or something more than three hundred and fifty dollars. With a farm of more than two hundred acres, the settlement and the annual payment, this was certainly a generous support, especially as the purchasing power of money at that time was much greater than it is at the present day. The land was to be cleared indeed before it could be made to aid in the support of a family, but progress could be made in this work gradually. The proposals were certainly sufficient to place a pastor above want with common industry and economy.

All of the lands and improvements in the township, with the exception, for a time, of the twenty shares (forty lots) reserved by the Masonian Proprietors for their own benefit were taxable to raise the amount for the settlement and the annual salary, while all that purchased land understood the conditions of the bargain in this respect, so there could have been no occasion for hard feelings or disputes.

* The disposition made of the lots "for the use of the ministry" and the "school lots" is explained in Chapter XIII.

In January, 1771, Mr. Brigham accepted the call that had been extended to him, and preparations were soon made for that notable event, the ordination of the first pastor.

The inn of James Reed was upon the old military road north-west of the village, and in sight of the house formerly occupied by Gilbert C. Bennis, and recently destroyed by fire. As the meeting-house was not in a condition to be used, the ordination of Mr. Brigham took place at the inn. Mr. John Mellen provided for the council and other clergymen that might be in attendance for twenty-five dollars, this sum being paid by the proprietors.

It seemed needful that a church should be regularly organized before the ordination of a pastor, and this was done by the council before Mr. Brigham was set apart as the pastor of Monadnock No. 4.

He had previously drawn up a covenant, to be accepted and signed by himself and others, for this purpose; and as this ancient document reveals not a little of the inner and outer life of the Christian people that settled this town, it is here given entire :

COVENANT.

" A. D. 1771, } Monadnock No. 4, in y^e Province of New Hampshire.
March 27. { We whose names are hereunto subscribed being inhabitants of No. 4 aforesaid, knowing that we are very prone to offend and provoke God y^e Most high, in Heart and life, thro' y^e prevailing of sin that Dwelleth within Us; and y^e manifold temptations from without Us; and for which we have great reason to be unfeignedly humbled before him from Day to Day, Do in y^e name of our Lord Jesus Christ, with dependence upon his gracious assistance and influence of the holy ghost, solemnly enter into Covenant with God, according to God as followeth :—

" (1.) That having Chosen and taken y^e Lord Jehovah to be our God, we will fear him and cleave to him in Love, and serve him in Truth with all our hearts; giving up ourselves to be his people; in all things at his Disposal and Sovereign Direction, That we may have, and hold Communion with him as Members of Christ's Mystical Body according to his revealed will, to our Lives End.

" (2.) We further Promise to keep Close to y^e Truth of Christ, Endeavoring with lively affections towards it in our Hearts to Defend it against all opposers thereof, as God shall at any time call us thereunto—which that we may Do, we Resolve to Use y^e holy Scriptures as our Platform, whereby we may discern y^e Mind of Christ, and not y^e new found inventions of men.

" (3.) We also Bind ourselves to Bring up our Children and Servants

in y^e knowledge and fear of God, by holy instruction from y^e sacred Scriptures,—(a Summary of which we have in y^e Catechisms of y^e Venerable assembly at Westminster,) that true Religion may Be maintained in our Families while we live, and among such as live when we are Dead and gone.

“(4.) We also Engage to have a Careful inspection over our own hearts, so as to Endeavor by Virtue of y^e Death of Christ, y^e mortification of all our sinful worldly frames and Disorderly affections, whereby we may be with Drawn from y^e Living God.

“(5.) Moreover we Oblige our Selves to y^e faithful improvement of our abilities and opportunities to worship God, according to all y^e particular institutions of Christ for his Church, under Gospel administration ; as, to give Reverent attention to y^e word of God, to pray unto him, to sing his praises, and to hold Communion with Each other in y^e use of Both y^e seals, viz : Baptism and y^e Lord’s Supper.

“(6.) We likewise promise that we will peaceably submit to y^e holy Discipline appointed by Christ in his Chh. for offenders, obeying them that rule over us in the Lord.

“(7.) We Bind also ourselves to walk in Love toward one another, Endeavoring our mutual Edification ; Visiting, Exhorting, Comforting as occasion serveth ; Warning any Brother or Sister that offends ; not Divulging any Private offences unnecessarily ; But heedfully following the several precepts of Christ laid down for Chh. Dealing, Matt. XVIII : 15, 16, 17, willingly forgiving all that manifest to y^e Judgment of Charity that they truly Repent of all their miscarriages.

“Now y^e God of Peace, that Brought again from y^e Dead, y^e Lord Jesus Christ, y^e great Shepherd of y^e Sheep, through y^e Blood of y^e everlasting Covenant, make us all perfect in every good work to Do his will, working in us that which is well pleasing in his sight, thro’ Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever, Amen.

“BENJAMIN BRIGHAM, Pastor elect.

“BENJAMIN BIGELOW,

“JOHN FASSETT.

“NATHANIEL WILDER,

“CALEB WINCH,

“JAMES REED.

“N.B. As to Discipline, this Chh. is founded upon y^e Cambridge Platform, as it is commonly Received and Practised upon in y^e New England Churches.”

This covenant, it will be observed, was signed by the pastor elect and five other men. Of the proceedings at the organization of the church no other particulars have been preserved.

Of the five lay members who, with their pastor, constituted the church thus organized March 27th, 1771, this brief notice may here be given :

Benjamin Bigelow was the first white settler of the town, and came from Lunenburg, Mass. He was not the ancestor of those recently and now bearing his name in Fitzwilliam, but belonged to the same family. Thirty-seven days after the

organization of the church he was drowned in the Ashuelot River at Winchester.

The next signer was John Fassett, from Boylston, Mass., who lived quite a distance west of the village, on the spot where the house long occupied by the late Dana Davis now stands. Mr. Fassett was chosen the first deacon of the church, April 18th, 1771, and died January 12th, 1834.

The next signature is that of Nathaniel Wilder, from Lancaster, Mass.

Caleb Winch came from Framingham, Mass., and lived in the northern part of Monadnock No. 4. That section of the township is now a part of Troy.

The last signer was James Reed, from Lunenburg (now Fitchburg), Mass., who was a noted man in his day, and kept the inn where the council assembled for the ordination.

The churches invited to compose, with their pastors, the council were those in Marlborough, Westborough, Shrewsbury, Lancaster, Southborough, Royalston, and Winchendon, Mass., and New Ipswich, Keene, and Swanzey, N. H.; but of these only Marlborough, Westborough, Royalston, Winchendon, Keene, and Swanzey appear to have been represented. Of the organization of the council we have no record.

Mr. Brigham's answer to the call he had received (which was deemed of sufficient importance to find a place in the proprietors' records) is here given in full, as an essential part of the proceedings and also as giving us some view of Mr. Brigham.

Monadnock No. 4, January 29, 1771.

To the Proprietors and Congregating Society of Monadnock No. 4, in the Province of New Hampshire.

Grace, Mercy, and Peace be multiplied from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Brethren and Friends.

The great God who is Sovereign of universal nature and orders all things according to the Counsels of his own will, for his own honor and glory and the best interests of all who love and fear and obey him, has, in his all wise providence, brought me among you to preach the Gospel of his Son Christ Jesus, and also inclined you to make choice of me, who am very unworthy of the honor, to settle among you in the work of the Gospel Ministry. You have laid before me your proposals, bearing date Nov. the 7th 1770 and January the 29th 1771, which offers I view as generous considering the infancy of the town and circumstances

of this people ; and cannot forbear returning you my sincere and hearty thanks for the great respect you have shown me thereby.

I have taken your invitation into serious and prayerful consideration, and when I reflect how great and arduous the work of a Gospel Minister is, how much grace and wisdom is necessary and how very unequal I am to such an undertaking, it makes me to tremble and to say with the blessed Apostle, " Who is sufficient for these things !"

Nevertheless when I consider the sufficiency of God's grace he affords to all them that sincerely ask it of him and the promise of Christ that he will be with his Ministers always to the end of this world, and the uncommon unanimity of the people in the choice of me for your Pastor, it supports me and I take courage.

I do therefore, viewing it my duty, and having taken the advice of my fathers and brethren in the Ministry, with dependence, upon grace and strength derived from Christ, the Head of all influences, accept of your invitation and offers, with this reserve that I have two Sabbaths annually allowed me during the time of my ministry, that I may have opportunity to visit my parents and friends.

I further entreat that you would remember me daily in your prayers to God, though an unworthy, yet that I may be a faithful Servant and watchman upon this part of Jerusalem's walls, instrumental of advancing the Redeemer's Kingdom in the world and of promoting religion, piety, and true Godliness among you, that finally I, who sow and you who reap, may rejoice together in the kingdom of glory forever and ever.

Benjamin Brigham.

As it is uncertain whether the clerk of the proprietors, in recording this document, followed the original paper with regard to spelling, punctuation, and the use of capital letters, it is deemed advisable, without changing a word, to give the whole a modern form.

That Mr. Brigham was from Massachusetts and was probably but little acquainted with the pastors in Cheshire County will doubtless account for the fact that our neighboring commonwealth furnished so large a proportion of the ordaining council.

Mr. Brigham was then twenty-nine years of age, and being a man of industry, energy, and acknowledged capacity and worth, he entered zealously upon his work as the religious teacher and guide of this people. Two months after the organization of the church Stephen Harris and Mary, his wife, joined it by letter from Framingham, Mass. These were the grandparents of the late Deacon Joseph Harris and Mr. Ebenezer Potter. The September following the wives of all the men who signed the covenant with the pastor also joined

the church by letter, with Henry Willard and Phebe, his wife. In 1772 five others became members, so that at the time of the incorporation of the town of Fitzwilliam there were not far from twenty members in full communion. Three weeks after the church was organized Mr. John Fassett was chosen deacon, and long and faithfully he served the church in this office. For many years he was almost always chosen one of its delegates, when the church was called in council to install or dismiss pastors or to settle difficulties. Very early in its history the church determined the time for observing the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, as it has stood through these many years—viz., on the second Sabbath of every other month, beginning with January. Why this time was selected, in deviation from the common custom of the churches, it is difficult to imagine, as it virtually prevents the minister from exchanging pulpits with the neighboring pastors nearly one fourth of the time.

July 9th, 1771, the church passed the following vote :

Persons shall have the privilege of taking the Covenant upon them and having their children baptized, though they cannot see their way clear to attend upon the Sacrament of the Supper.

The "half-way covenant," as it was called, to which allusion is made in this vote, had a measure of favor with most of the Congregational churches at that time ; but it was the source of almost innumerable trials and evils, and the action of the church given above was reconsidered and unanimously set aside October 3d, 1800. During the twenty-nine years succeeding the organization of the church, it appears that eighty-six individuals became members of it in this partial manner under the vote of the church allowing them to do so, and many, probably most of these who had young children had them baptized, having taken the covenant chiefly for this purpose. Like those admitted to full communion, such as came in under the "half-way covenant" were propounded at least fourteen days before their admission ; and from time to time quite a number of these became regular members of the church. At the time when this inconvenient and troublesome practice was

discontinued, the church by vote invited all who stood in this relation to it to become members in full ; but it does not appear that this invitation was accepted to any great extent.

July 8th, 1773, or a little after the town was incorporated, Mr. John Locke was chosen the second deacon. He was a man of discretion and well-earned influence.

The calls upon this church to sit in council for the ordination, installation, or dismissal of pastors, but more especially for the settlement of difficulties in churches of New Hampshire and Massachusetts, have been, from the first, very numerous, a fact which proves that it and its pastors have enjoyed in an eminent degree the public confidence. For many years it was customary for the church to send, on such occasions, its pastor and two delegates.

September 7th, 1775, the church voted to take up a collection at each communion for one year, in order to provide the elements for the communion-table. This plan, which is so easily carried into execution and saves much trouble, was soon exchanged for occasional collections ; and this last-mentioned custom prevailed till within a comparatively recent period. In 1779 the church voted to purchase one table-cloth, two pewter platters, and four pewter cups for the communion-table, and that in making the contribution for the elements for the table during the succeeding six months, each member should write his or her name upon the paper containing the money. This requirement was made doubtless because the amount called for and expected from each member had not been contributed, and it was desirable to know who were delinquent. A similar vote was passed at a later date for the same purpose, the members being called upon to contribute one shilling each, and the contribution to be in each case "subscribed"—*i.e.*, enclosed in paper with the name of the contributor. Probably some in those days were unwilling to pay their proportion of the expense involved in the support of civil and religious institutions, though we are to bear in mind that the people in general had but very little money.

During the entire ministry of Rev. Mr. Brigham hardly any other single matter occupied the attention of the church in its

business meetings so often as the supply of wine for the communion-table. The lack of system in providing this will account in part for the numerous votes upon this subject ; but another, and this the chief reason, may be found in the habits of the times. It was customary then to more than taste of the consecrated element, for many communicants all over the country were in the habit of taking a considerable draft. The carrying back of the cups to be refilled and the refilling of the tankards during the solemnity are within the memory of not a few now living ; and the existing generation may certainly congratulate itself upon the extent and happy influence of the temperance reform in this particular.

It should be added also that the cost of wine in this country a century ago was very great, as all of it was imported, and the policy of our government has favored heavy duties upon it from an early day.

In those days the entire population of the town was interested in the support of the services at the single meeting-house, and all seem to have regarded the industrious, discreet, and faithful pastor in the light of a personal friend and temporal as well as spiritual guide. All then who were able attended public worship, and the long row of sheds west and south-west of the meeting-house upon the hill was filled from Sabbath to Sabbath with the horses or oxen of the worshippers. As already noticed, large loads of men, women, and children came in the winter upon ox-sleds from the most distant neighborhoods of the town, and as the morning and afternoon services were very long and the days short, many of these could not have reached their homes till nearly dark.

In the summer the younger portion of the audience came with bare feet, and not a few of their fathers and mothers, who walked from two to five miles, brought their shoes and stockings in their hands till they approached the meeting-house, when they would stop at some stream or spring and wash their feet and make ready for God's worship. Upon returning home after the services this process was reversed, and so the carefully preserved shoes and hose would be good for such service a number of years. Upon a discontinued road south-

west of the spot where the old church stood there is a spring or little stream where these changes often took place, and the remains of the old overturned pine-tree upon which the people sat for this purpose and for rest were plainly to be seen in 1871.

Though there was no way of warming the church, and not more than two houses near, and the services very long (usually two hours or more each), the congregations were large and patient. The meeting-house was in that day the chief place of resort to obtain information upon all subjects. The news of the respective neighborhoods, of the town generally, and of the country was freely canvassed by the people at those Sabbath gatherings, while many went to church doubtless to visit, and some possibly to do business.

There were very few books in the families, and newspapers were almost wholly unknown, so that the size of the congregations in those days was hardly a true index of the real interest in religious matters. Besides the property of all paid for the preaching, for the pastor's salary was raised by general taxation.

These things should be borne in mind when the past and the present are compared touching the attendance of the people upon public worship.

In those days the tithing-men preserved order in the sanctuary, and, if necessary, waked up the sleepers. The boys certainly stood in awe of these officers.*

No musical instruments were used to aid in the service of song, and the chorister was appointed by the town and not by the singers; and tradition is in fault if the music did not sometimes lack sweetness and harmony. That the Psalms and hymns were heartily rendered and with strong voices, we can well understand.

At the close of each service the entire congregation rose and stood reverently with their eyes upon their pastor till he had passed down the central aisle, and this custom, it is understood, continued for many years during the ministry of Rev.

* It would seem that the town continued to elect tithing-men annually till about 1842, though for a considerable period before the office had ceased to be of any practical importance. In 1843 the town voted not to choose tithing-men.

John Sabin, or until the old church on the hill was abandoned for the new one on the common.

The salary of Rev. Mr. Brigham was paid by the proprietors according to contract for the term of twenty-seven years, or until 1798, when, by mutual agreement, it was assumed by the town. Samuel Griffin and Oliver Damon were chosen deacons in April of that year. The number of members admitted to the church during the ministry of Mr. Brigham was two hundred and eighty-five—males, one hundred and thirty-one, and females, one hundred and fifty-four. Many of these died or removed from the town during the same period. Of the two hundred and eighty-five members, seventy-six are recorded as coming from other churches with letters of dismission and commendation.

From everything that can be gathered from the church records, which seem to have been faithfully kept by Mr. Brigham as clerk of the church, there were no dissensions to mar its beauty and hinder its usefulness during the long service of its first and honored pastor.

The house which he owned and occupied was the well-known landmark, the old dwelling just east of the church and cemetery at the foot of the hill, with the majestic elm in front of it, both of which have been recently removed. This house was built by Mr. Brigham, and was the parsonage during most of his ministry. The elm, it is said, was brought by his hired man from the flat toward the railroad station, and set out under the pastor's direction.

In the early part of the year 1799 Mr. Brigham was feeble, and the compiler of this history learned from an aged man now deceased who attended upon his ministry while a lad, that he preached a number of Sabbaths in the parsonage, after he was unable to go up the hill to the church. On June 13th, 1799, Mr. Brigham died, aged fifty-eight, in the twenty-ninth year of his ministry. His funeral, it appears, was attended the day following his death, Rev. Mr. Lee, of Royalston, preaching the funeral sermon. This sermon, with the one preached by the same clergyman at the funeral of the first Mrs. Brigham, was printed.

Rev. John Sabin, in one of his historical lectures, gives this testimony respecting the character and work of the first pastor :

From what I can learn of this man in this town and out of it in this vicinity, I should think he was beloved and as near without an enemy as about ever falls to the lot of man. And there is this mark of his not designing war upon a great scale, that when a Committee (was) appointed to inspect every man's preparation for war as duly equipped with arms, ammunition, and all accoutrements (this was during the Revolutionary War), Mr. Brigham was reported as not furnished.

Mr. Sabin adds :

It may scarcely be supposed that ever another Minister will get through life to so extensive regret of Community as did the first Minister.

And the writer learned some years since from one of the aged men then living, that when the news of Mr. Brigham's death reached his father's house there was a depth of grief that he, a little lad, was wholly unable to comprehend. The following is from the church records :

He was a good Divine, an able and faithful Pastor, the friend of peace, truth and righteousness. While he lived he was greatly esteemed and beloved by his people and all his acquaintances, and at his death he was greatly lamented.

His remains repose by the side of those of his first wife, Lucy Brigham (who died six years before him), in the central part of the old portion of the cemetery. The sermons preached at the funerals of this worthy couple were printed in 1800. Quite a number of the manuscript sermons of the first pastor have been preserved, two of which were presented to the writer by Mrs. Selina P. Damon. The size of the page is about that of a duodecimo book, and the writing is very fine and compact, requiring for reading a magnifying power of considerable strength. The preacher must have held the manuscript directly before his eyes at the time of delivery.

In 1809 the town appropriated "to procure Gravestones for the Rev. Benjamin Brigham's grave," the sum of twenty dollars.

The maiden name of the first Mrs. Brigham was Lucy

Morse. His second wife was Puah, the widow of John Mel-
len, Esq.

During his ministry of about twenty-eight years Mr. Brigham baptized six hundred and fifty children, the first having been Rebecca, daughter of Nathaniel and Lucy Wilder. This baptism took place April 28th, 1771.

CHAPTER VII.

SETTLERS FROM 1762-1800.

From what Places—Character—Age—Property—Dwellings—Dress—Means of Communication—Social Qualities—Amusements—Religious Habits—Farming—Manufactures—Personal History—Benjamin Bigelow—James Reed and Others.

NOT a few towns in our Western States and Territories are settled by colonies from some particular locality in the older portions of the country ; but the early settlers of Fitzwilliam came from many places, and without anything like a concerted plan of settlement. The older towns in Middlesex and Worcester counties, Mass., seem to have furnished at least four fifths of the first settlers, particularly Framingham, Marlborough, Southborough, Sterling, Holliston, Lunenburg, Templeton, Leominster, Medfield, and Shrewsbury. Doubtless some acquaintance with or relationship to the proprietors and previous settlers induced the majority to remove to this place and take up these " wild lands," as they called them. Thus Daniel Mellen, of Holliston, led many relatives and friends from that town, from Framingham, Southborough, and Sherborn, to remove to Monadnock No. 4, and James Reed did the same for settlers from Lunenburg and other places in that vicinity ; but after 1800 more seem to have come as strangers, and led by a common desire to better their condition or to provide for increasing families.

In its earliest years the settlement appears to have had a very slow growth, for it is related that the widow of Benjamin Bigelow, the first settler, was accustomed to say in her old age that for a long time she was the handsomest and smartest woman in Fitzwilliam, because she was the only one.

As to the general character of the first settlers, it may be said that they were industrious, energetic, frugal, kind, considerate, and ready for hard labor and to make great sacrifices

for the comfort and welfare of their families and of society at large. That there were some worthless persons and some shiftless families among them there can be no question, for such will always find their way, as if by instinct, to a new settlement ; but in the great majority of cases the men and women that undertook to found homes and establish social, civil, and religious institutions on these hills and along these streams were persons of real, genuine worth, fit to be pioneers in a great and important enterprise. They came expecting hard work and toilsome lives, many privations, but, after all, much comfort in laying good foundations and witnessing substantial progress.

That in general they were law-abiding and ready to frown upon vice, whoever might be guilty of it, we have the fullest evidence, for they brought with them not a few of the strongest and best elements of the Puritan character. The home training and all the best moral and religious influences under which they had passed their childhood and youth it was their aim to transplant and cherish in this place of their adoption, as their entire history conclusively proves.

As to the age of the first settlers when they came to Monadnock No. 4, it may be said that the majority of them were young rather than old. A few came with gray heads and somewhat worn with life's struggles, with families already established and children grown to maturity, prepared, physically and intellectually, to take an active part in maintaining all the interests of their new home (witness the family of General James Reed) ; but these were the exceptions rather than the rule. The record of the deaths of the pioneers in this settlement (which has been very carefully preserved, and by more than one party) shows us that generally the first settlers were from twenty-five to forty years of age, and of course in the strength of manhood and womanhood, while the fact that some were older tempered the energy of the settlement with a large share of wisdom and discretion.

As to the education and general intelligence of the early settlers, it may be said that they were fully equal to their neighbors whom they left behind in the older settlements.

The culture of the laborious, hard-working families of New England at that day was not usually great, measured by modern standards, for the training of the schools was not the best, while valuable books were few, and the almost omnipresent newspaper of the present day was hardly known. Some have supposed that the early settlers of this region could have read only with great difficulty, and that by no means all were able to write, because in some important records of business that have come down to us men in responsible positions occasionally signed by a cross rather than wrote their names ; but this is plainly an erroneous and exaggerated view of their deficiencies. As children few of them had had our advantages for culture, and paper, pens, and ink were in some households luxuries ; but most could converse and compose well according to the standards of that day, while some would be considered refined and cultured in almost any modern society. In the matters of spelling and the application of grammatical rules their writing often appears to have been much in fault, but in both respects they generally followed the prevailing customs of the day, and did not exhibit as much ignorance as many suppose. At all events, they seem to have made laudable efforts to give their children the advantages of a good education, which was no easy matter with so small a population spread over thirty-six square miles of territory.

Most of the early settlers appear to have come to Monadnock No. 4 with families. Nearly all had wives to assist them, and often the children constituted a large part of the increasing population ; for in those days the rich and the poor alike regarded a goodly company of little ones as a blessing rather than an incumbrance. And from all that can be gathered from their early history, it would seem that the wives and the mothers who presided over the early homes of Fitzwilliam were as industrious, frugal, energetic, and ambitious as their husbands. That they generally worked in a very quiet manner and made their influence felt indirectly rather than otherwise is not to their discredit.

As to the property of the early settlers, it may be said that most of them appear to have been in moderate circumstances,

if we judge of them by modern views and feelings. Undoubtedly a few of them were quite poor, and not more than two or three of them could have been regarded even then as wealthy. General James Reed had quite extensive landed possessions, and the Mellen family had means beyond most of their neighbors ; but nearly the entire company of immigrants had all they could do to live in a very unpretending manner and make limited improvements upon their farms annually. They knew next to nothing about bank shares or deposits in institutions for savings, and had no sound government securities laid up for the time of misfortune and old age. But though they were far from being rich, they were perhaps as well off, for the times, as Western emigrants of forty years ago would average, and the Registry of Deeds proves that land speculation was as common then as it is to-day. But one of the original proprietors settled in Monadnock No. 4, so that but little was done by these men of means to make the town wealthy. Most of the settlers doubtless purchased their lands in part certainly on credit, and years passed away before the last payment was made, and they could call themselves independent.

More means, in the beginning of their work here, would have been to many of them a great convenience, especially as the heavy demands and sacrifices of the Revolutionary War were so soon to be encountered ; but their early struggles with comparative want were not without many and large compensations.

Of their dwellings it may be remarked that, in nearly all cases, the first were built in the rudest manner. Almost of necessity these houses were cold, uncomfortable, and what we should deem but poorly fitted for the enjoyment of health, especially in winter, in this rigorous climate. A large fireplace, with the chimney sometimes upon the outside of the structure and occasionally with no chimney at all, occupied one end of the building, while generally there was a great lack of most conveniences and comforts. During a large part of the year different occupations, and these of great variety, were of necessity carried on in the single living-room, which

was at once kitchen, dining-room, sleeping-room, parlor, nursery, and shop. Men in those days were sometimes ingenious in building their houses. Mr. John Fassett came to town in the spring of 1769 and located some two miles or more west of the present central village, building on the spot where the late Mr. Dana Davis lived for many years and where Mr. Thatcher Matthews now resides—Lot 13, Range 9. His house he erected, chiefly with his own hands, in this manner: he set posts made from split logs in the ground, with but a small space between them, and then covered the sides as well as the roof with hemlock bark, which after being removed from the logs had been spread upon the ground and thoroughly dried, with large stones upon it to prevent it from rolling. These pieces of bark were fastened to the posts by means of green withes which passed around the posts and through holes in the bark made by a large gimlet which Mr. Fassett brought with him from his old home in Massachusetts. Rafters were erected for the roofs and ribs lashed across them, and upon these double courses of bark were laid, and the whole carefully secured by withes, like the bark upon the outside. The door was made of bark, and had in like manner withes for its hinges. In this house this honored father in the church and town lived for six years and until he had six children; and these years, he was accustomed afterward to say, were the six happiest years of his life.

Such exposure to cold and storms seems not to have been detrimental to health and longevity in this case, for Deacon Fassett when he died, January 12th, 1834, had reached the age of ninety-four years. Very few of his neighbors had dwellings showing such a variety and so much ingenuity of workmanship.

Of the dwellings of the early settlers generally it may be said that most of them were built of logs. The chimney was of stone, and the fireplace was so large that logs and wood from four to six feet long could be conveniently used. Blocks of wood or sections of trees furnished the chairs and tables in many a habitation. Ladders were used to reach the chambers and cellars whenever luxuries of such a nature were

indulged in by the poorer families. No great variety was found upon their tables, for Indian bread, johnny-cakes, bean porridge, and turnips rather than potatoes were the staple articles of food. Pies and cakes were rarely tasted.

The work dresses of both sexes were made of tow and linen cloth (home manufacture) for the warm season, while coarse woolens, obtained in the same way, were worn in the winter. A skirt and short loose gown were the ordinary dress of females, and to appear in at church and on all special occasions these were made of chintz, if possible, and, in a few cases, of silk. The "long shorts," in quite general use, seem to have reached half way from the knee to the ankle. The shoes of both sexes were made of stout leather, and in the winter, when cow-hide boots could not be obtained by them, the men wore leggins. When the snow was deep snow-shoes were used, and we are assured that it was not uncommon to see a woman standing behind a man, both upon the same snow-shoes, and keeping step perfectly. As there were no wagons for quite a number of years, side-saddles and pillions were in common use.

While noticing the inconveniences under which the first settlers did their work, Dr. Cummings remarks :

How should they be provided with writing materials, when they had not even the common implements for eating ! I was informed a few days since by one of the mothers in Israel that she worked in the family of one of the proudest men in town in 1785, and lived on bean porridge, and eat it out of a brown earthen mug, which served as a dish for the whole family, it being the only one used in the kitchen. She also informed me that she was treated to the best lodging the Palace afforded, a cot bed on the floor with one sheet, there being but a single pair in the house. Her employment was spinning cattle's hair, procured from the tanner, to be made into bed-covers.

Statements like these show us that the early settlers in Fitzwilliam had many hardships to encounter. According to modern ideas of conveniences and helps they did everything at a disadvantage, while of luxuries they knew nothing. But though their dress was coarse and plain, and their food, with the manner of serving it, far from tempting for such as were delicate, a good degree of health and general thrift was maintained,

and the settlement prospered. Always and everywhere the first settlers in new countries have many hardships to encounter.

Regarding the social qualities of the early settlers, tradition informs us that the intercourse between the different families was of that free-and-easy character that made calls and visits very enjoyable. All met upon the same level, for the distinctions of wealth were practically unknown, while each family had an abiding interest in the prosperity of every other. They had few books and no newspapers to furnish matter for conversation, but they seem to have been good talkers nevertheless. In fact, all their outward circumstances combined to make them prize, in an eminent degree, their social relations, while their sayings that have come down to us prove that not a few of them had that shrewdness and wit which never fail to enliven the gatherings of friends, neighbors, and kindred.

Of their amusements it may be said that while they had no clubs, in the modern acceptation of this term, to draw away the men from their families, or parties for card-playing and other games that are now so fashionable, they did not lack the means of recreation when they had spare time upon their hands. Wrestling at that day was very common and popular, vastly more so than it is at present, and the champion wrestler was known far and near.

The game of quoits was often played in connection with family or neighborhood gatherings. In the autumn huskings were common, when all the men, women, and children of some section of the town would strip all the corn of a neighbor in an evening, and then do the same for others. When framed houses began to take the place of log huts the raising of a building was a great occasion, and was considered by most persons as a time for relaxation and sport, to be enjoyed, rather than of hard labor to be avoided.

Where the men were clearing their lands of the heavy growth of wood log rollings were not uncommon, at which a great amount of work would be done in a single day, to be followed by the best supper and a plentiful supply of strong drink at the close.

Among the ladies quiltings afforded a pleasant recreation, especially when prolonged till the evening, when the good wives and mothers would be joined by their husbands, and the inevitable treat was accompanied by a round of story-telling. The children had their little games of "hunt the slipper," "button, button," just as they now have a century later.

Early in the history of Fitzwilliam, as was true at that period of nearly every other town in the country, military trainings were a great attraction, and brought together a large part of the people of all ages to enjoy a holiday. Even now men, women, and children do not easily tire while watching the manœuvres of a company of trained soldiers.

In their modes of travel the early settlers accommodated themselves to their circumstances. At first their roads were only narrow paths through the forests, barely sufficient for the passage of ox-wagons, carts, and sleds, which appear to have been in common use from the first. After a few years vehicles drawn by horses began to be in use. Stephen Harris brought his wife and household goods from Massachusetts to this town on an ox-sled. Agabus Bishop, from Wrentham, Mass., settled in the north-west part of the town about 1777 or 1778, and the historian of Troy says of him :

Here he commenced, as did nearly all the first settlers, by clearing a spot and building a log-house. And when he moved his family, instead of coming with an ox team, as had nearly all who preceded him, he came with a horse and wagon, and for some years this was the only horse in that part of the town.

In one of his lectures Dr. Cummings relates a pleasant incident concerning Mrs. Reed, the widow of James Reed, Jr. Mrs. Reed was a native of Lunenburg, Mass. Says the doctor :

I very well remember hearing Mrs. Reed tell of a horseback ride she and several other girls took with their beaux from that place to this when she was quite young, and her name was Molly Dodge. I well remember, too, that her countenance grew animated and her face shone when she told over what they saw by the way, and what good times they had.

This agreeable expedition of Molly Dodge must have taken

place before or during 1768, as on December 11th of that year she was married to Mr. Reed.

In their regard for religious institutions the pioneers in the settlement of Fitzwilliam did not fall behind the best elements of the New England people generally. Each family had a right to and a part in the services of the meeting-house, and nothing but severe storms or sickness prevented the entire congregation from a regular attendance. Not a few of the people lived from three to five miles from the place of gathering, but the weather must have been very bad which would keep them at home on the Sabbath. When we consider that for years not a few of them walked so far to church with such insufficient protection for their feet, with no umbrellas, and often with but a poor supply of warm clothing, and then sat in the unwarmed meeting-house through two long services, we cannot fail to admire their courage and perseverance, even when we cannot affirm that they were all actuated by religious principle and devotion.

That the prevailing public sentiment called for this sacrifice of comfort and exposure of health in the severest seasons of the year even was doubtless true, while the almost universal desire to learn what was going on in the settlement and in the world generally had not a little to do with their church-going habits ; still it will be hardly fair treatment to deny to them in their religious observances a large share of the old Puritan principle.

Of their habits touching the use of intoxicating drinks, this much may be said in their favor. In a time when ardent spirits were deemed necessary to give strength under hard and protracted labor and protection under great exposure and were, moreover, in general use, the wonder is that so few of the early settlers became drunkards. In the record of deaths in this town for fifty years after its incorporation no one is said to have died of drunkenness, if the examination made be correct. Many cases may have occurred in which drinking habits complicated and rendered fatal fevers and pulmonary diseases, which were then very common ; but evidently death could not often be traced among the early settlers in Fitzwil-

liam directly to strong drink. For anything that appears to the contrary, intoxicating liquors were kept and used in every family and on all occasions ; but in all the written and traditional accounts that have come down to us we find comparatively few allusions to anything like beastly intoxication. Some years ago the writer was told by one of the oldest men in town (now deceased) that at the funeral of the first pastor, Rev. Benjamin Brigham, which he well remembered, the custom of providing intoxicating drink was observed, as it was on only extraordinary occasions. Usually only the officiating clergyman, the bearers, and the mourners were expected and invited to drink, but at this funeral a strong sling made of rum, sugar, and water was prepared in a tub in a large quantity, from which all present were invited publicly to help themselves—a scene which happily the present generation will never witness.

With regard to the cultivation of the land and the crops raised by the early settlers, it is sufficient, to say that the implements of husbandry used in those days were of the rudest kind. The ploughs were made almost wholly of wood, the hoes were heavy, as were also the forks and the shovels. Any one who has examined a scythe, a hand-rake, or an axe of a hundred years ago must perceive that they were clumsy in the extreme, and could not have failed to make heavy drafts upon the patience as well as strength of those who used them. We may well be thankful for the mower, the horse-rake, the reaper, etc.

The productions of the soil, which were relied upon chiefly for food, and to carry, in small quantities, at a later date, into older and larger places for market, were not numerous. Rye and Indian corn may be said to have been the staples, while beans, turnips, and barley were considered important and profitable crops, as was also flax for the home manufacture of linen. This was before the days of cheap cottons, which now enter so largely into the dress of both sexes. A century ago a calico dress, the entire material for which can now be bought for a dollar, was a luxury which but few could afford. A native of Templeton who settled in Fitzwilliam at the time of

her marriage used to say that her first calico dress was a present from her father, and cost sixty-two and a half cents a yard. The date of this must have been about 1788. At this time very little cloth of any kind was used except what was of home manufacture. For outside garments tow cloth for summer and woolen for winter wear constituted the dress of all, while for underclothing a coarse linen cloth was worn the year round. So almost every house had its great wheel for spinning wool, its little wheel for flax, and its loom for weaving the cloth. And not only was the cloth of home manufacture, but to a very great extent the garments were made at home also.

There was an early tradition here that before Monadnock No. 4 was settled all beavers had cleared the trees from quite a meadow in the eastern part of the town upon Scott Brook, where a fine crop of grass was annually produced; and it was added that a gentleman residing in Lunenburg, Mass., who knew of this meadow sent up his farm help from that place, who cut the grass and carried the hay to Massachusetts—a story that plainly should be received with considerable allowance.

The opening alluded to was doubtless what was generally called a natural meadow, and there are supposed to have been a number of others in the township, though less in size. A much higher value was placed upon the meadow than upon the more elevated farming lands, as the meadow required no clearing up. At a very early date “the Great Meadow” on Scott Brook was divided among many owners.

In the following notice of the first settlers of Fitzwilliam no pains have been spared to make the dates and all other particulars as accurate as possible. The early records of the proprietors, of the town, and of the church have been appealed to, in every instance, for all the aid they could afford, while family records have brought to light many facts not obtainable from any other quarter. The memoranda of the late Dr. Cummings, though of themselves of a very fragmentary nature, have furnished a multitude of facts which, supplemented and completed from other sources, have been of great value. The fullest use has been made of his papers, as well as of those of Mr. Charles Bigelow.

As will always happen in such collections of incidents, some points are left obscure, and fuller explanations from the lips of those who preserved them would have added greatly to the interest and value of these narratives. The first settlers committed but very little to writing.

Dr. A. M. Caverly, in preparing his "History of Troy," which was printed in 1859, was very laborious and remarkably successful in obtaining and collating the history of the first settlers in that town, and deserves high commendation for his faithful work. After the lapse of nearly thirty years it would be impossible to-day to make such a collection of facts as he was able to present, for nearly all the aged, upon whom he depended for information, have passed away.

As a considerable portion of Troy (something more than four thousand acres) was until 1815 a part of Fitzwilliam, Dr. Caverly's chapters upon the early settlers embrace many of the most important facts respecting the families that originally occupied the northern section of our town.

In many, perhaps in a majority of cases no descendants of the first settlers are now inhabitants of Fitzwilliam; in other cases the descendants now living in the town are through the female line of the families, and the family name is extinct, as is true of the Townsend, Brigham, and Davidson names.

In setting forth what can now be learned of the history of the early settlers it has been impossible in all cases to observe the exact order of time in their coming, for very often the precise years of their arrival cannot be determined. Not infrequently a young man would come from Massachusetts and begin the clearing of a piece of land, but return, after a few months, to his home. Sometimes, in such cases, many months would elapse before he would return and become an actual settler, and occasionally he would not return at all.

The New Hampshire *Gazetteer*, published in 1823, states that the first settlement was made early in 1760 by James Reed, John Fassett, Benjamin Bigelow, and others,

which is plainly a mistake, as it is certain that no one of them came as early as the date named.

BENJAMIN BIGELOW and Elizabeth, his wife, were from Lunenburg, Mass., and they must have come to Monadnock No. 4 as early as 1762. Mr. Bigelow was, without doubt, the first settler. Probably he entered the territory by the old military road from Winchendon, as he came bringing his wife and goods in a cart doubtless drawn by oxen. This cart, turned up against trees, was the shelter of his family till a log-house could be built, and under it the first white child, native of Fitzwilliam, was born, May 10th, 1762. Opinions vary with regard to the exact locality of this event. One tradition is that the child Beulah was born near the dividing line between Massachusetts and New Hampshire, while another supposes that the worthy couple had already arrived at the spot west of the Pinnacle where their house was afterward erected. That the birth of this child occurred as here stated is unquestionable. Beulah Bigelow was the only child of her parents who lived to maturity, and she became the wife of Ezekiel Gates, of Stow, Mass., and had a family of eight children. A letter from Artemas Gates, son of Ezekiel and Beulah, informs us that one of the eight had nine children, another eight, another seven, two five each, one six, and another four, while the other died young; and he adds that as to his "mother's being born under a cart is more than I can vouch for; but my father used to plague her about it, but she denied it." Mrs. Gates was hardly a competent witness in this case, and the uniform tradition will not be set at naught by her testimony. Mrs. Beulah Gates died at the age of seventy-two.

Benjamin Bigelow was one of the six members of the church at its organization, March 27th, 1771. Three or four years before he had been the agent of the proprietors to hire the first minister, Mr. Parker, and he was one of the committee that obtained, as a candidate for settlement, the first pastor, Rev. Benjamin Brigham. He aided also in fixing upon a site for the meeting-house and cemetery, while he was active in clearing the first roads in the township. May 3d, 1771, Mr. Bigelow was drowned at Winchester, in the Ashuelot River, while attempting to cross it on the ice, as he was returning to his home on foot with provisions for his family. His body

was not recovered till many days after, when it was found in the Connecticut River at or a little below Northfield, Mass. His death was a severe loss to the church and entire community, as he was universally respected, confided in, and loved. After the birth of Beulah Mr. and Mrs. Bigelow had two other children—viz., Ruth, who died June 24th, 1770, and Sampson, who died five days later. After the death of her husband Mrs. Bigelow removed to Stow, Mass., which is supposed to have been the place of her birth, and died there.

JAMES REED was doubtless the second to settle in Monadnock No. 4, and the only one of the original proprietors that actually resided in this township. In the latter part of his life he was usually styled General Reed, having been commissioned as a brigadier-general during the Revolutionary War. He was a native of Woburn, but removed to Fitzwilliam from Lunenburg, Mass. In a deed executed March 4th, 1765, he is called "James Reed of Lunenburg," doubtless for the good reason that since the final grant to the proprietors of Monadnock No. 4 was not made till after the date given above, he could not legally have been described as belonging in this place. He built the second house (the first framed house) in the township, and it stood on the old military road about half a mile from the home of Benjamin Bigelow, and but a little distance from that lately occupied by Mr. Gilbert C. Bemis. It had two large square rooms, beside a kitchen and bedroom on the lower floor. It was two stories high, and had several lodging-rooms upon the second floor. This house was kept by General Reed and others for several years as an inn.

Many of the proprietors' meetings were held in it, and it seems to have been the place where most of the religious services of the settlers were maintained during the years that elapsed before the meeting-house was in a condition to be occupied. The ordination of the first minister, Rev. Benjamin Brigham, took place March 27th, 1771, under that roof, unless the best traditionary evidence is in fault, though it should be noted that a single report comes to us that the public services on that occasion were held in the shop of Asa Johnson, which

was near General Reed's, while the dinner for the council was laid at the inn.

The military history of General Reed will more properly have a place among the records of Fitzwilliam in the Revolutionary War.

He was a man of ordinary height, well built, and very active, care-taking, and energetic.

James Reed was moderator of the proprietors' meeting, November 14th, 1769, which was the first meeting held in Monadnock No. 4, and proprietors' clerk from that time till 1776. His name appears as a member of all the most important committees that shaped the action of the people in establishing their civil and religious institutions. While in the army in 1776, during the prevalence among his troops of small-pox, dysentery, and malignant fever, General Reed suffered severely. He was then at Crown Point, and Dr. Cummings suggests that through malpractice—of course not intentional—his eyes were so seriously affected that his sight was practically and permanently destroyed. While sick he had orders from General Washington to join him at headquarters, but it was impossible for him to comply with the wishes of the commander-in-chief, and he was soon obliged to retire from active duty on half pay. The close of the war found him in Keene, and it is thought that he was there for medical attendance. "The Annals of Keene" say :

This Gen. Reed, whose ordinary place of residence was Fitzwilliam, is remembered here as an aged blind man, and as almost daily seen after the close of the War walking up and down Main Street, aiding and guided by Mr. Washburn, who was paralyzed on one side ; he received a pension.

The description is pathetic, the blind man led by but supporting a cripple.

After a few years' residence in Keene, General Reed returned to his home in Fitzwilliam, where everything was so familiar that he could walk in safety without a guide ; but later he went to Fitchburg, where he died. He was an officer in the army toward the close of the French and Indian War, and was

about fifty years old when he entered the service of his country in the war of the Revolution.

His first wife, a Miss Abigail Hinds, is represented as a smart and capable woman, able to do anything, and keeping her husband's financial matters in a good condition. His second wife was a daughter of Major John Farrar, of Fitzwilliam.

His sons, Sylvanus, James Jr., and Hinds were in the Continental Army, and the two eldest received pensions.

In his old age General Reed is reported as saying that his children were spoiled by his being so long absent in the army while they were young. (See the chapter upon the Revolutionary War, and also the genealogical records which comprise the latter part of this volume. These records may be consulted in all similar cases.)

After Chapter X. of this work and the foregoing sketch of the life of General Reed had been written, the committee in charge of this history received from Amos J. Blake, Esq., of Fitzwilliam, a biographical sketch of General Reed, from which they have directed such extracts to be made both here and in Chapter X. as give additional facts respecting him, and are deemed by them appropriate for this volume. Mr. Blake's sketch is understood to be the substance of a paper which he prepared for the New Hampshire Historical Society and read before that body.

James Reed "first settled in Brookfield, Mass., and afterward in that part of Lunenburg now Fitchburg. His dwelling stood upon the site of the present City Hall."

His military life commenced in 1755, when he served in the campaign against the French and Indians, commanding a company of provincial troops under Col. Brown. In the same capacity he served with Gen. Abercrombie, in 1758, at Ticonderoga, and with Gen. Amherst, in 1759. He was employed in various public services until the peace of 1763. In the French and Indian War he received the Commission of Lieutenant-Colonel. The lapse of time has hidden from view the detailed account of his services in those campaigns, but his early selection by his countrymen for the command of a regiment at the beginning of the Revolution indicates that his military career was creditable to himself and valuable to his country.

Upon the tidings of the battle of Lexington, he raised a Company of Volunteers, and marched at their head to Medford. His ardor in the

cause did not permit him to remain idle. He continued to enlist volunteers, and soon had four companies enrolled under his standard, the greater portion of whom were from Cheshire County. He was appointed Colonel of a Regiment by the New Hampshire Provincial Assembly on the first of June, 1775.

He remained with the army in the vicinity of Boston after its command was assumed by General Washington, being posted upon Winter Hill, and upon the reorganization of the forces on the first of January, 1776, his regiment was ranked second in the Continental Army.

The evacuation of the British troops on the 17th of March concluded the siege of Boston, and Colonel Reed accompanied the army in its movements to New York in the following April. On the 24th of April he was put into the 3d Brigade, under General Sullivan, and was soon after ordered up the Hudson to relieve the force under Arnold.

The following receipt, given on his departure from New York, serves to illustrate the confidence reposed in Colonel Reed :

New York, April 29, 1776.

Then received from Gen. Washington three boxes, said to contain three hundred thousand dollars, to be delivered to Gen. Schuyler at Albany.

(Signed)

James Reed.

The money above alluded to was doubtless for the payment of Schuyler's army.

General Sullivan's command passed over the ground which was familiar to Colonel Reed by his campaigns in the previous wars, as far as the mouth of the river Sorel.

Here they met the retreating army, and Gen. Sullivan assumed the command. The retreat reached Ticonderoga on the 1st of July, 1776. A worse foe than the enemy at this time attacked the American army, for disease, the unfailing attendant of hardship and exposure, now broke out and prevailed to an alarming extent. Small-pox, dysentery, and malignant fever rapidly thinned the ranks of the patriot army. Col. Reed was attacked with fever at Crown Point, and, perhaps for want of proper medical treatment, suffered the loss of his sight, which of course retired him from the service. On the 9th of August, 1776, and during this illness he was appointed by Congress a Brigadier-General, on the recommendation of Gen. Washington.

He died at Fitchburg, Feb. 13th, 1807, aged eighty-three years, and was buried with military honors. In the old burying-ground at Fitchburg stands his monument, quite elaborate for the times, which bears the following inscription : In the various military scenes in which his country was concerned from 1755 to the superior conflict distinguished in our history as the Revolution, he sustained commissions. In that

Revolution, at the important post of Lake George, he totally lost his sight. From that period to his death he received from his country the reward allowed to pensioners of the rank of Brigadier-General.

JASON STONE came from Framingham, Mass., soon after the arrival of General Reed, and was doubtless the third settler. He was the son of Samuel Stone, and was born December 28th, 1737. His wife was Deborah Goodnow.* The exact time of the arrival of this family is uncertain, but they had a child born here as early as October 18th, 1765, and this was the first birth entered upon the records. This family had a son Thaddeus that died from being scalded, and was buried April 30th, 1769. This was the first burial in what has been ever since the cemetery of Fitzwilliam; and the grave was in the south west corner of the lot as afterward laid out and accepted by the proprietors for a burying-ground. Probably the location of the cemetery had been substantially settled in the minds of those most interested before this first grave was opened. The burial of this child is the first that appears upon the long record that covers the space of one hundred and seventeen years.

Mr. and Mrs. Stone were peculiar people, and many anecdotes respecting them have come down to us by tradition, most of which are not worth repeating.

Dogs were numerous in those days, considering the small number of the families, and the sight of a dog vexed the soul of Mr. Stone. After the meeting-house was so far completed that it could be used for public worship, the dogs had a propensity to attend. Mr. Stone carried with him on all occasions a stout whip or heavy cane, which he used effectually to put a stop to this nuisance, so that the sleepers in the meeting-house had no chance for rest while a dog remained in the sanctuary. Mrs. Stone always rode on a pillion behind her husband; and if she was not always good-natured, he was not uniformly very accommodating. Incompatibility of temper in the household is not wholly a modern evil.

* Mr. and Mrs. Stone "owned the covenant" in the Framingham Church, August 17th, 1766 and three of their children are recorded as having been baptized in Framingham, probably after their removal to Fitzwilliam—viz., Deborah, Thaddeus, and Rebecca.

THE MELLEN FAMILY.

The father of this family, which was closely identified with the early history of Fitzwilliam, was

DANIEL MELLEN, who removed from Framingham to Holliston, Mass., in 1750. Of the original proprietors of Monadnock No. 4, no one did more to promote its settlement and general prosperity. He was here very often, and took an active part in all the affairs of the township, though he never resided in the place permanently. He built and set in operation the first saw-mill, which was located east of the house where Mr. Nahum Hayden has since lived. This mill was built in the spring of 1767, and Mr. Mellen was aided in building it by a vote of the proprietors that they would pay Colonel Sampson Stoddard from their treasury "twenty pounds, on condition that he should deed to Daniel Mellen two lots of land to encourage him to build a saw-mill." Mr. Mellen built also a house on the hill where Sylvester Drury now lives, on the old Troy road. This house he designed for the home of his son, John Mellen. Daniel Mellen was associated with James Reed and Benjamin Bigelow on the earliest committee chosen by the proprietors to lay out roads, and of this committee he was the chairman. This appointment was the first made by the proprietors of which we have any record. At the next meeting of this body the same three men were chosen as a committee to locate a meeting-house and lay out a lot of land for a burying-ground, and of this committee Mr. Mellen was also chairman. He held the same position on the enlarged committee of later date that actually fixed upon the site for the church edifice and cemetery. He was also the first collector of taxes in the township. Indeed, during the early history of Fitzwilliam Daniel Mellen was called to fill almost every office that required the best judgment and the greatest amount of honesty and energy ; and he may well be styled "one of the fathers of the town."

JOHN MELLEN, better known in the latter part of his life as Esquire Mellen, was a son of the above-mentioned Daniel Mellen, and removed to Monadnock No. 4 as early as 1767,

and probably a little earlier. As already noticed, his father had built a house for him in which he lived for a number of years. This place being consumed by fire, he afterward lived in a house which he owned, and that stood a little south of the parsonage recently occupied by Rev. John Colby. This house was where there is an old cellar and a clump of aged apple-trees before we descend the hill toward the Hayden place. In the early years of the town he owned the land on which the south part of the village now stands, while Colonel Sylvanus Reed owned the north part. Esquire Mellen was a man of great influence in laying the foundations of society, and, like his father, was called upon to fill many important and responsible offices. It was with him that Rev. Benjamin Brigham boarded while preaching as a candidate for settlement.

Outside of Fitzwilliam Mr. Mellen was called to transact a large amount of public business, and was plainly regarded as one of the most energetic and reliable men of Cheshire County. In 1780 he was appointed collector of beef for the Continental Army, and had the entire county for his field of operations. At another time he was associated with Colonel David Webster, by the appointment of the Committee of Safety, to visit every town in the district and to look after all the deficiencies in furnishing the full quota of beef cattle required by the State government. This was at a time when it was very difficult to obtain anything like adequate supplies of food for the Continental Army.

John Mellen was the representative from the district composed of Fitzwilliam and Swanzev in 1777 and 1779.

He died of a nervous fever July 25th, 1784, aged forty years.

In the history of Framingham, Mass., we are informed that John Mellen, Esq., married Sarah Fisher, of Medway; but the name of his widow, who became the wife of Rev. Benjamin Brigham, was Puah, not Sarah. It is possible that this lady, who survived Esquire Mellen, was a second wife; but this is not at all probable, as we have no record of such a marriage, or of the death of a first wife.

In the autumn of 1770 a little daughter of Mr. Mellen about three years old wandered away from home and was lost

in the woods, which then covered nearly the entire territory for miles in every direction. Missing her and not finding her in the immediate neighborhood, the family became alarmed and messengers were sent into every part of the settlement for help. Night came on while men, women, and children were searching the forest. Pine torches were lighted, and the search was still continued, but it was not till toward morning that the child was found. She was discovered by David Perry sitting under the body of an upturned tree, with the little dog that had followed her by her side. The sound of the horn as the signal of success soon relieved the almost distracted parents, and being repeated through the forest, recalled the people from the pursuit, and in a short time they were all gathered at the house of Mr. Mellen. Mr. Brigham, who was then preaching here as a candidate and who boarded at Mr. Mellen's, led the devotions of the assembled people in a fervent prayer of thanksgiving to God, which was followed by songs of praise, and then all partook of the best refreshment that the house afforded. This lost child carried the effects of this fright all through her life. She died February 13th, 1861, aged ninety-five years.

DANIEL MELLEN, JR., was another son of the Daniel Mellen already mentioned. Born in Holliston, Mass., he came to Monadnock No. 4 at the age of nineteen years. The early records of the proprietors show that he too, like his father and brother John, was a man of worth, and ready to do his part in every public service and enterprise. He was comparatively a quiet man, but with a fair capacity for business. Beginning life in Fitzwilliam as a farmer, he continued such till the end of his days, dying, at the advanced age of ninety-eight years, January 7th, 1847. His home was on an old road to Troy, the house standing upon the site of the late residence (recently burned) of Mr. Gilbert C. Bemis.

REV. JOHN MELLEN, a brother of Daniel Mellen, Sr., and about seven years his junior, never resided in Monadnock No. 4, but in 1768 was

Earnestly Desired at y^e Cost & Charge of this prop^{ty} to Repair to Portsmt^o as soon as his pleasure suits & make application to the General Court of New Hamp^t for a Confirmation of the meetings of the Prop^{rs} of this Town & for a full power to be Given to the s^d Prop^{rs} to sell Delinquents Lands for non Payment of Taxes.

JOHN FASSETT came to Monadnock No. 4 possibly in the fall of 1768, but more probably in the spring of 1769. At a proprietors' meeting held November 14th, 1769, he was chosen one of the Board of Assessors, and also one of a committee to lay out roads in the township. The family came from Massachusetts, but from what town is not certainly known. A family account is that he came from Lexington, while another account states that he came from Boylston. His wife Isabel was admitted to the church in 1771 on a letter from Templeton. Mr. Fassett was one of the six individuals that constituted the church of Monadnock No. 4 at its organization and the settlement of its first pastor, and April 18th, 1771, was elected its first deacon. From the beginning he took a deep interest in all that concerned the welfare and prosperity of this people, and for a long course of years was relied upon as a faithful and trustworthy representative of this church in ecclesiastical councils. And he was equally confided in by the proprietors and town in all their arrangements, filling every office to which he was called to the satisfaction of all concerned. Deacon Fassett built his house (covered on its sides and roof with bark) upon his original Lot 13, Range 9. In this he lived six years, the happiest, he was accustomed to say, of his life; and there six of his children were born. Later he exchanged farms with Deacon Oliver Damon, and removed to what is still known as the Fassett Farm, Lot 15, Range 8.

TOLMAN FAMILY.

THOMAS TOLMAN was from Dorchester, Mass., and his ancestors are reported to have been among the first settlers of Boston and vicinity. Mr. Tolman was a man of considerable importance in the early times of Fitzwilliam, especially in that part of the town where the village of Troy now stands. The

forest there was very heavy, and he felled with his own hands the first tree to make an opening for the log hut into which his family was introduced as early as the year 1768. His was the first house built and occupied in what is now the pleasant and flourishing village of Troy. Being an active, energetic, and vigorous man he made great improvements. Dr. Gideon Tiffany had contracted with the proprietors to erect in the town a good grist-mill, but failed of having it accepted, and Mr. Thomas Tolman completed a mill in 1769 that answered the purpose. This was known far and wide as the Harrington Mill. Near it he erected, a little later, a good saw-mill, which was close by the spot where the bridge in the village of Troy now stands. With plenty of lumber at his command, Mr. Tolman soon exchanged his log hut for a good substantial framed house, which afterward was opened as an inn. Not many years ago this house (with its location slightly changed) was owned and occupied by Mr. Joseph Haskell, it being the oldest dwelling in that part of Monadnock No. 4.

BENJAMIN TOLMAN was, like his brother Thomas, a man of energy, but possibly not equally methodical and persistent in his work. He had, it appears, resided for a season in Attleborough, Mass., before migrating in 1770 to Monadnock No. 4. Here he built a log-house in which he resided for ten years with Hepzibeth, his wife, who was the daughter of Jacob Newell, also one of the early settlers. Mr. Tolman found it necessary to have a road to reach his log hut and farm which the proprietors were slow to furnish, and so he made it to suit his convenience, without asking leave of the owners of the intervening territory. He had fourteen children, born between 1782 and 1807, all but two of whom seem to have lived to reach maturity. Of these seven were living in 1859, when the history of Troy was printed.

FARRAR FAMILY.

MAJOR JOHN FARRAR was a native of Framingham, Mass., in which place he was highly respected and honored before his removal to Monadnock No. 4. His name first appears upon

the records of the proprietors under date of October 11th, 1768, when he was chosen a member of a new committee raised to locate a meeting-house and to lay out a burying-ground. That he removed his family to this place as early as 1768 is somewhat doubtful, for his youngest child, Hitty, is recorded as having been baptized in Framingham, October 14th, 1771. In 1769 Major Farrar appears to have held the office of deputy sheriff in Middlesex County, Mass., and he held other important offices in Framingham as late as 1774. It is nearly or quite certain that for some years after 1768 he retained his residence in Framingham while he was active in promoting all the civil and religious interests of Monadnock No. 4, going back and forth between the two places as circumstances seemed to require.*

He was twice married, his first wife having been a daughter of Rev. John Swift, of Framingham, who left two children, two others having died in infancy, while Deborah Winch, his second wife, had nine children. His house here was in the northern part of the town, and Lot No. 23, Range 7 (now Troy), constituted his farm. In 1770 he was the moderator of the proprietors' meeting, and as acting chairman of a committee chosen for that purpose, reported upon the matter of a suitable site for the meeting-house and the place for the cemetery. He was also upon a committee in 1770 to obtain a minister, and was plainly a very active and influential man in all the movements and projects of the early settlers. For some time before his death, which was the result of a violent fever and occurred January 7th, 1777, he was the clerk of the proprietors. His death was a great loss to the settlement.

His son, WILLIAM FARRAR, was sixteen years old in 1768, and if the family of Major Farrar came to Fitzwilliam at that time, he doubtless came with his mother and the other children. His home was near that of his father, and he was gen-

* Probably the easiest way to harmonize the several matters respecting Major Farrar's residence is to suppose that he was here a considerable part of the years 1768-70, as he held three offices in Monadnock No. 4 during the year last mentioned, but was in Framingham, Mass., much of the time 1771-75. In 1776 he held seven offices here, but none during the five previous years.

erally known as Colonel BILL Farrar, to distinguish him from Colonel Daniel W. Farrar.

JOHN FARRAR, JR., son of Major John Farrar, was the eldest of the nine children of Deborah Winch. He is remembered as a very genial man and an agreeable, jovial companion. His patriotism led him into the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, in which his peculiar characteristics rendered him a great favorite among his fellow-soldiers. Some amusing anecdotes are related of him, setting forth his ingenious methods for obtaining fresh provisions for himself and his comrades when supplies for the troops were scanty. After the close of the war Mr. Farrar lived for some years in Fitzwilliam, but died in South Hadley, Mass., March 20th, 1809.

SILAS WETHERBEE was from Westborough, Mass., and must have come to Monadnock No. 4 as early as 1766 or 1767. At a meeting of the proprietors October 7th, 1767, they voted "to Captain Silas Wetherbee £13 6s. 8d. for his encouragement in building a saw-mill in said township." This mill was what has since been known as the Scott Mill, on Scott Brook, and derived its name from Benjamin and Barakiah Scott, father and son, the father having bought out the improvements made by Silas Wetherbee. The Scott family owned the premises for a considerable period, and carried on the business either alone or in connection with Esquire Kendall.

Mr. Wetherbee was a member of the committee of five that selected the site for the meeting-house and cemetery.

THE KENDALL FAMILY.

EDWARD KENDALL, a native of Leominster, Mass., came to Monadnock No. 4 in 1768 or 1769, and made an opening on what has since been known as the Davidson place, building his house on the Rindge road, east of the present village, near the dwelling of the late Mr. Luke Bowker. Judged by the offices of trust which he held here, Mr. Kendall must have been a very capable and worthy man. His death occurred at Leominster, where his only daughter lived, the wife of a Mr.

Lincoln. His only son, Edward, settled in Westminster, Mass., and was a cabinet-maker. Deacon Edward Kendall, now of Worcester, Mass., is a son of the second Edward mentioned above.

SAMUEL KENDALL, a brother of the first Edward above mentioned, came from Leominster in 1769 and settled where Captain William F. Perry afterward lived, Lot 14, Range 2. He was usually known as Esquire Kendall, for he was for many years a justice of the peace. By trade he was a carpenter, and was considered so capable in this line that he was employed as the master workman in framing and erecting the meeting-house. He was quite a farmer also, while for many years he was called to do a large part of the most important public business.

He and William Locke, who were near neighbors all their lives, after they came to Monadnock No. 4, were married on the same day.

CALEB WINCH came from Framingham, Mass., as early as 1768, and was one of the six original members of the church in this place. He built for himself a log-house in that part of Monadnock No. 4 which since 1815 has belonged to Troy, owning Lots 20 and 21, Range 6. At once he became a man of note in the township, for he was energetic, enterprising, and deeply interested in every measure that concerned the common welfare. His name appears upon the records both of the proprietors and town in connection with important offices, while he was among the first to respond to the call of his country when the Revolutionary War broke out. Mr. Winch was in the battle of Lexington, and followed the British troops in their retreat to Boston. The circumstances of his family were such that he could not long remain in the army, but there was not in the region a truer and more devoted patriot. His wife's name was Mehetable, and they had ten children, born between 1770 and 1788. Mr. Winch died in 1826.

The following account of his experience as a civil officer is worth preserving. Being the collector of taxes, he had occa-

sion to seize and drive off the only cow of an honest but very poor man with a large family, who was not able to satisfy the demands of the law. The route of Mr. Winch with the cow took him past the door of Rev. Mr. Brigham, his minister. The pastor learning the circumstances at once turned the cow backward, and insisted upon her being driven home immediately, under the promise that he himself would see that the tax bill should be settled. This act seems to have been characteristic of Mr. Brigham.

THE HEMENWAY FAMILY.

Of those bearing this name in the early days of Fitzwilliam, JOSEPH HEMENWAY was by far the most prominent in the history of the township. He came from Framingham, Mass., about 1769, and his home was on what is now called the Holman place, now or lately owned by Mrs. Stephen Perham. Tradition asserts that his wife was a sister of Daniel Mellen, Sr., but according to the history of Framingham she was Mary Adams. A younger brother of Joseph, Joshua Hemenway, married Zerviah, the youngest daughter of Daniel Mellen, Sr., and hence probably the mistake. Joseph Hemenway was the moderator of a number of proprietors' meetings, and filled acceptably various other offices in the early years of the town.

Of the others bearing this name who settled in Monadnock No. 4 but little is known. The birth of only a single Hemenway child is recorded.

In 1807 one S. (probably Sylvanus) Hemenway made a map of Fitzwilliam from actual survey. At this time the Legislature required the towns throughout the State to furnish town maps made from actual survey, and from these town maps Philip Carregain made a map of the State, which is known as Carregain's map, and which was for a long time the foundation of all the maps of the State wherever published. A copy of Mr. Hemenway's map has been very carefully made, and in a somewhat reduced form is here given. While this map evidently does not give all the local roads leading from house to house, it is quite certain that it gives all the turnpike roads,

all the county roads, and all the town roads that lead directly to the adjoining towns. This man was a near relative of Joseph Hemenway, before noted, but it is impossible to state the exact relationship.

BRIGHAM FAMILY.

REV. BENJAMIN BRIGHAM is the prominent figure in the chapter on early ecclesiastical history, and to this the reader is referred. His life and work were closely identified with all the secular, educational, and religious interests of the town, and he was honored and beloved by all the people.

ELISHA BRIGHAM, son of the first pastor, kept what was called the Crosby Store for about two years, the funds for the same, it was understood, having been furnished by General James Humphrey, of Athol, his brother-in-law. After this Mr. Brigham removed to Boston and was a clerk for a Mr. Williams, whose sister he married, at the south end of Washington Street. Later he removed to Cincinnati, O.

LIEUTENANT LEVI BRIGHAM and Tabitha, his wife, were from Westborough, Mass. They came as early as 1771 or 1772, since the eldest of their children, Lydia, was baptized here in August of the latter year. Lieutenant Brigham was collector of taxes and constable during the first year after the incorporation of the town, and one of the selectmen in the year following. In 1775, when the militia of Fitzwilliam were organized, Levi Brigham was chosen lieutenant; indeed, from time to time he seems to have held nearly every office in the gift of the people. Mr. Brigham owned Lots 6 and 7, Range 6.

SILAS ANGIER and Elizabeth Drury, his wife, were from Framingham, Mass.; but resided for a few years after their marriage in Temple, N. H. They came to Fitzwilliam in 1779. Mr. Angier owned Lot 8, Range 7, and Lot 6, Range 9. He built his house by setting posts in the ground and covering the same with slabs brought through the woods by

marked trees with great difficulty from Allen's mill in Royalston. Mr. Angier cut the large maples and birches upon his land, burned the brush, and put in his corn and potatoes with a hoe without ploughing.

DUNCAN CAMERON, a native of Scotland, was a soldier under General Burgoyne, and in the battles of Bennington, Vt., and Stillwater, N. Y., before the British army surrendered to the American General Gates. Unlike most of those who were taken prisoners with him, Mr. Cameron was pleased with our country, and upon being exchanged he came to Fitzwilliam and settled down as a successful farmer, locating himself in the northern part of the town. Near the close of the century he removed to Vermont.

ABEL BAKER, Lot 12, Range 12, came quite early from Walpole, Mass., and settled in the western part of Fitzwilliam, of which he was regarded as the first settler. He boarded at a Mr. Jillson's in Richmond while he was building his log hut. His wife was Harriet Smith, of Medfield, Mass.

Mr. Baker had remarkably large eyebrows, which were covered with very long hair, the whole giving him an appearance that sometimes frightened strangers and children. Having no children of her own to caress, Mrs. Baker is reported as having conceived a great fondness for cats, and the great number of these animals in and upon the bed (said to have been in one instance twenty-eight) served to vex the soul of her husband. Notwithstanding this domestic trial, Mr. Baker lived to accumulate considerable property.

THOMAS CLARK, Lot 18, Range 12, came from Wrentham, Mass., in 1779 and located in the north-west part of Fitzwilliam, where he built, like most of the first settlers, a log-house to be the home of himself and family. This location was within the limits of the present town of Troy, and we are informed, in the history of that town, that his hut had no chimney, but was warmed from a stone fireplace in the centre of it, the smoke escaping through a hole in the roof left uncov-

ered for this purpose. Mr. Clark, who was ingenious as well as industrious, followed the example of Stephen Harris, who lived three miles or more from him, and in addition to carrying on his farm made various articles of wood for household use, as plates, trays, spoons, mortars, etc., either entirely by hand or assisted by the rudely constructed lathe of those days. At that time pewter plates and cups were used to some extent on the table, but crockery was too expensive and perishable, so that in families of moderate means wooden dishes were generally regarded with favor. At a little later period brown earthenware was substituted for wooden platters and other dishes.

STEPHEN HARRIS, Lot 11, Range 8, started on the morning of March 3d, 1771, for Monadnock No. 4 with his wife and children on a sled drawn by oxen. They came from Framingham, Mass. He had a hard drive and they had a hard ride of four days before reaching their destination, but finally arrived at the house of Joseph Hemenway, who was probably his old neighbor.

Mr. Harris had been here during the autumn of 1770, at which time he had purchased land and built a log-house which stood directly behind and within a few feet of the late dwelling of Abel Angier.

After clearing out the snow from his house and warming it up, the family took possession of it on March 9th, 1771. They brought with them neither bedstead, chair, nor table, and for a time their beds were spread upon the split logs that made the floor of their dwelling. Their first table was made of a large slab brought from a saw-mill, with legs inserted in auger-holes. Blocks of wood furnished them seats as they met for their meals, which consisted of hasty-pudding, a little venison, and bean porridge. On the 27th day of the same month Mrs. Harris attended the ordination of Rev. Benjamin Brigham, drawn through the snow upon a hand sled by her husband and a hired helper. These were the grandparents of the late Deacon Joseph Harris and Mr. Ebenezer Potter. Their neighbors in their new home were Mr. Benjamin Bigelow on Fay Hill, John Fassett, and John Chamberlain.

Stephen Harris was an industrious and enterprising man, and held many offices. He was a farmer, and besides had a shop in which, during stormy weather, he manufactured chairs with seats made of elm bark procured from Gap Mountain. He was also a turner, like Thomas Clark already mentioned, and with his lathe made similar articles for table use.

CAPTAIN JONATHAN LOCKE, better known as Esquire Locke, was a native of Holliston, Mass., but came to Monadnock No. 4 from Framingham.* He located upon wild lands, Lot 20, Range 11, and lived in a log-house. This was in 1770. Later he built a framed house which is still standing, being the premises so long known as the Reed House, and which is now occupied by Mrs. Milne. This house has stood about one hundred and fourteen years, and is doubtless the oldest house in Fitzwilliam. In 1772, at the request of his father, Esquire Locke removed to Ashby, Mass., to take the charge of his father's farm, and there he resided till his death. He was one of the committee, in 1770, to notify Mr. Brigham of his call to the pastorate in this township, as he was also to attend the ordination in behalf of the proprietors. A very warm friendship sprang up between Mr. Locke and his pastor, and it is said that the latter walked the house in distress during the whole night previous to the departure of Mr. Locke for Ashby. In that town he held various important offices, and was a member of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress at Salem, and of a convention called to frame a constitution for that State.

Near the junction of the old and newer Royalston roads were the houses of the brothers Abijah, Stephen, and Eliphalet Richardson. Stephen owned Lot 4, Range 11, while Lot 3 in the same range belonged to Eliphalet. This family came from Royalston. Stephen married Rhoda Daniels. He was a healthy, robust man, but while returning home from the vil-

* At a little later date two of his brothers came to Fitzwilliam. Deacon John Locke settled on Lot 16, Range 4, where Samuel Kendall now resides. William Locke lived on Lot 11, Range 2.

lage during a cold night, December 31st, 1790, he missed the road in the darkness and wandered into the field, about fifty rods south of the cemetery, to an oak-tree. He was found the next morning dead by John Osborn, one of the scholars of District No. 8, while on his way to school. Among Dr. Cummings's papers these items are found: "Captain Richardson was a stout man; served as an ox-frame to have his oxen shod." "Captain Richardson came to town and made a beginning on his farm before the Revolution. He went to Miss Daniels, of Keene (whom he afterward married), and offered to deed to her his property if she would marry him; but she chose to remain single until the result of the war should decide the fate of the country."

Captain Stephen Richardson was in the Continental Army about three years.

JOSEPH FORRISTALL came from Holliston, Mass., when he was twenty years of age. For a few months he had been in the Continental Army, and was stationed at Ticonderoga. His wife was Hannah Mellen. The one hundred and twenty acres of land (Lot 19, Range 8) upon which this young couple settled were purchased by the father of the bride, who came with Mr. Forristall and aided him in making a clearing and partially building a framed house. This was in the autumn, and early in the following spring the family took possession of their dwelling, though the floor of the house was not laid till the succeeding fall. The history of Troy states that the family came to town in 1779, but the town records make it very certain that they did not come till 1781.

JESSE FORRISTALL, an older brother of Joseph, came about the same time, and settled in the extreme south part of the town.

JOSIAH HASKALL lived on Lot 8, Range 11. For ten years or more he carried the mail from Worcester to Boston, and was distinguished for his politeness. He commenced with one poor horse, but before he left the route he had a covered stage, with four horses.

He made a weekly trip, but his route was somewhat circuitous, as it passed through Winchendon.

Mr. Haskall was a basket-maker, and once made on a bet a bushel basket that, when filled with water, lost but two quarts during a night.

SCIPIO JAWHAW, from whom Sip Pond was named, was a negro, who lived with his squaw wife north-east of the north end of the pond. He was an expert fisherman, and quite a character in the early years of the settlement. His wife, it is said, pretended to be a witch, to the great annoyance of the neighbors.

SAMUEL BENT and Mary, his wife, were from Sudbury, Mass., and came to Fitzwilliam in 1780. Mr. Bent owned a part of Lots 7 and 8, Range 1. He, with two of his neighbors, killed a moose south of Sip Pond. It is related that Mr. Bent, with his neighbors Mr. Clark, Mr. Goodnow, and Sip, were out upon the pond for fish during the famous dark day, May 19th, 1780. For a considerable time, as the darkness came on, the fish took the hook very quickly, but as the darkness increased, till nothing scarcely could be discerned, they ceased to take the bait, and the company were glad to leave their sport for their homes.

SAMUEL DIVOL owned a part of Lot 6, Range 2, and either he or William Divol built the first saw-mill in that part of the town. At a more recent date Milton Chaplin had a mill on or near the same location which was afterward owned by Elisha Chaplin, and was consumed by fire a few years since.

The Divols left town about 1791.

THE GODDING FAMILY,

consisting of the widow of John Godding and four sons and four daughters, came from Attleborough, Mass., in 1779, and settled upon Lot 21, Range 11. The eldest son, John, was then a capable and energetic young man, and he made the

purchase of the land and arranged all the matters of the removal. This farm has since been owned by Albert Pratt. The Godding family was much respected, and formed good connections in this and some of the neighboring towns.

PHILIP AMADON came from Oxford, Mass., with Eunice Shumway, his wife, in 1783, and settled upon Lot 10, Range 4. Soon after his arrival he built the second grist-mill, but failing to get it in operation as easily as he had hoped, he returned to Oxford in 1784, and worked in the hay field to obtain funds to complete it. On his return he came through Northfield, Mass., where he bought four bushels of corn, and brought the meal from the corn home on the back of his horse, which he led. The family supplies had been reduced so low before his arrival that the mouthfuls of food were counted.

THE BOWKER FAMILY.

Lots 19 and 20, Range 7. BARTLETT and JOHN BOWKER, brothers, came from Scituate, Mass., in 1780, and purchased two hundred acres of land where is now the village of Bowkerville. Boarding at first with Mr. Mellen, they cleared ten acres, set up a house, and roughly covered it. In the spring following Bartlett and John introduced their wives into this dwelling, which had no chimney till snow fell. These brothers lived together for ten years, with their property in common, and then made an amicable division in fifteen minutes. Bartlett had fourteen children and John fifteen. They built as soon as convenient a blacksmith-shop, buying their iron in bars and slitting it up for nails, which they used in large quantities in shoeing horses and oxen. The first ox-frame in town was set up by them, and twenty yokes of oxen were driven to their shop at one time from Surry for shoeing. The farmers would notify them in season, so that the shoes and nails might be ready. Their father's family in Scituate lived in a small house about four miles from the beach, and there were ten boys and three girls in it, making fifteen in all; and the whole family ate bean porridge out of one large wooden bowl.

At a little later date another brother, Charles, came to town, and settled on Lot 17, Range 6.

JONAS ROBINSON, or ROBESON, as he spelled his name after he came to New Hampshire, was born in Lexington, Mass., and came to Fitzwilliam in 1791 or 1792, opening a store in the house of Reuben Ward, who lived in Marlborough. About a year later he erected a building near the Harrington Mills, finishing the front part for a store and the rear part for a dwelling-house. In 1805 he opened a store in the centre of Fitzwilliam, and in 1813 he sold out his interest in the first-named store to Daniel W. Farrar. From 1806 to the time of his death, August 24th, 1819, he lived and carried on his business in Fitzwilliam village. Before his removal to this village he superintended the building of the new road or turn-pike from Fitzwilliam to Keene, as no one else who was responsible could be found to do it, building log huts for the men whom he employed. Later he was very active in the erection of the first meeting-house in Fitzwilliam village, and was much affected when it was burned. When the flames were bursting out from the doors and windows he took from the pulpit the Bible, and before the fire had gone out was arranging with Judge Parker and Rev. Mr. Sabin for rebuilding at once. Mr. Robinson was captain of an independent military company, then major, but declined the office of colonel. In 1819 he represented this town in the Legislature.

It is impossible to state very definitely when the most of the early settlers came to town. In some few instances the descendants of the various individuals are able to give the date of settlement, but in the larger number of cases the date where the name first appears in the records gives us the most reliable information that is attainable. The following lists, 1765-85, have been prepared with much care, and are believed to be as complete as it is practicable to make at the present time.

The first list gives the dates when the persons named settled in Fitzwilliam (Monadnock No. 4), the authority generally being the descendants of the several persons.

The second list gives the dates when the names first appear in the proprietary, church, or town records ; and while *some* of the persons may not have settled here much if any earlier than the date under which they are here placed, it is certain that *others* were in town some years before the date at which they first appear in the records.

In both lists the names of the towns from whence the persons came are given so far as has been ascertained. The titles attached to some of the names are those by which the persons are best known, though in nearly every case they belong properly to a much later period in the life of the individual. It is believed that very nearly all the persons named were heads of families, or became such soon after their settlement in Fitzwilliam.

List No. 1.

1767	John Mellen, Esq.....	Holliston, Mass.
1768	Reuben Pratt.....	Westboro, “
1771	Stephen Harris....	Framingham, Mass.
1777	Samuel Stone.....	“ “
1778	Silas Angier.....	“ “
1780	Bartlett Bowker.....	Scituate, Mass.
	John Bowker.....	“ “
1781	Jesse Forristall.....	Holliston, “
1782	John Fay.....	Marlborough, Mass.
	Allen Grant.....	Cumberland, R. I.
	Asa Waite.....	Sutton, Mass.
1784	Philip Amadon.....	Oxford, “

List No. 2.

1765	Benjamin Bigelow.....	Lunenburg, Mass.
	General James Reed.....	“ “
	Jason Stone.....	Framingham, “
1767	Captain Silas Wetherbee.....	Shrewsbury, “
1768	Isaac Aplin.....	
	Benjamin Davidson or Davison..	
	Major John Farrar.....	Framingham, Mass.
	Aaron Garfield.....	
	Daniel Mellen, Jr.....	Holliston, Mass.
1769	Deacon John Fassett.....	Templeton (?), Mass.
	John Goldsburys.....	

- 1769 Edward Kendall.....Leominster, Mass.
 Thomas Tolman.....Dorchester, "
 Joseph Twist.....
 Caleb W.Framingham, Mass.
- 1770 Rev. Benjamin Brigham.....Marlborough, "
 Joseph Hemenway.....Framingham, "
 Jonathan Locke.....Ashby, "
 Benjamin Tolman.....Attleboro, "
 Thomas Wetherbee.....Westboro, "
 William Withington.....Ashby, "
 1771 John Angier.....Framingham, "
 Captain Elijah Clays....."
 Stephen Cool (Cole).....Pomfret, Conn.
 David Denison.....
 Moses Drury.....Framingham, Mass.
 Samuel Graves.....
 Samuel Kendall, Esq.....Leominster, Mass.
 Amos Knight.....Lancaster, "
 Henry Poor.....
 Nathaniel Wilder.....Lancaster, Mass.
 Henry Willard.....Pepperell, "
 1772 Levi Brigham.....Westboro, "
 Moses Cutting.....Framingham, Mass.
 Joseph Grow.....Pomfret, Conn.
 Deacon John Locke.....
 John Mayhew.....
 Nathan Mixer.....Framingham, Mass.
 Nathan Platts.....
 Thomas Trowbridge.....Framingham, Mass.
 Jonathan Whitney.....Dunstable, "
 1773 Rev. David Goodale.....
 Robert Ware.....
 Jacob Wilson.....
- 1774 Amos Boynton.....
 Job Boynton.....
 Alpheus Brigham.....
 Joseph Brown.....Lancaster, Mass.
 Peter Burbee.....Attleboro, "
 James Butler.....
 Ebenezer Camp.....
 Francis Fullam.....Leominster, Mass.
 John Harrington.....Framingham, "
 Joshua Harrington....."
 Joshua Harrington, Jr....."
 John Hemenway.....

- 1774 Samuel Kilpatrick.....Fitchburg, Mass.
 Joseph Kneeland.....
 Jonas Knight.....
 William Locke.....
 John Maynard.....Framingham, Mass.
 Ezekiel Mixer.....“ “
 David Perry, Jr.....Sherborn, “
 Joseph Potter.....
 James Tiffany.....Chelmsford (?), Mass.
 1775 Abner Ball.....
 Major Asa Brigham.....Shrewsbury, Mass.
 Dr. Gershom Brigham.....
 Leonard Brigham.....Shrewsbury, Mass.
 John Chamberlain.....
 Joseph Dun.....
 Aaron Morse.....
 Benjamin Potter.....
 Ebenezer Potter.....Marlboro, Mass.
 Jonas Rice.....Brookfield, “
 Ichabod Smith.....
 Daniel Squires.....
 1776 John Camp.....
 Silas Farnsworth.....
 Daniel Farrar.....Lincoln, Mass.
 Phinehas Hutchins.....Lunenburg, Mass.
 Joseph Nurse.....Framingham, “
 Abraham Rice.....“ “
 1777 Solomon Badcock.....
 Amos Bucknam.....
 Calvin Clark.....Marlboro, Mass.
 Daniel Joslin.....
 Edward Platts.....Lunenburg (?), Mass.
 Benjamin Scott.....Sturbridge, “
 1778 Daniel Adams.....
 Joseph Farwell.....Groton, Mass.
 Jonathan Gibson.....
 Josiah Goodale.....
 Daniel Gould.....
 Jesse Hayden.....
 Isaac Jackson.....
 Job Pratt.....Southboro, Mass.
 Joshua Willard.....Grafton, “
 1779 Benjamin Angier.....Framingham, “
 Benjamin Bennett.....
 Ebenezer Boutwell.....

- 1779 Ephraim Boynton.....Sterling, Mass.
 Benjamin Byam.....
 Joseph Fassett.....
 Theophilus Hardy.....
 Josiah Hartwell.....Lunenburg, Mass.
 Abner Haskell.....Lancaster, "
 Joseph Muzzey.....
 Samuel Osborn.....Hopkinton, Mass.
 Matthew Osborn....." "
 Joseph Scott.....
 Joseph Stone.....Southboro, Mass.
 Nathan Townsend.....Westboro, "
 Joseph Whitmore.....Lancaster, "
 John Whitney.....Dunstable, "
 Nathaniel Wilson.....Westminster, "
 1780 Samuel Bent.....Sudbury, "
 Stephen Brigham.....
 Thomas Clark.....Wrentham, Mass.
 Matthias Felton.....
 Joseph Forristall.....Holliston, Mass.
 Samuel Harris.....
 Isaac Jackson.....
 Asa Johnson.....Holliston, Mass.
 Joseph Knight.....
 Nathaniel Muzzey.....
 Joseph Smith.....
 Abner Stone.....Framingham, Mass.
 Samuel Wilson.....
 1781 Silas Colburn.....Pelham, Mass.
 Abel Estabrook.....
 Joseph Morse.....
 Joseph Nichols.....Framingham, Mass.
 Joseph Nichols, Jr....." "
 David Saunders.....Billerica, "
 Barakiah Scott.....Sturbridge, "
 Hezekiah Stone.....Framingham, "
 Abijah Warner.....
 John Whitney, Jr.....
 Samuel Winch.....Framingham, Mass.
 1782 Daniel Bigelow....." "
 William Bruce.....Sudbury, "
 Jesse Cheney.....
 Joseph Foster.....
 Eleazer Mason.....
 Needham Maynard.....Framingham, Mass.

- 1782 Edward Payson.....
 Jacob Sargent.....
 James Stone.....Southboro, Mass.
 Ezekiel White.....
- 1783 Agabus Bishop.....Wrentham, Mass.
 Daniel Foster.....
 John Godding.....Attleboro, Mass.
 William Hartwell.....
 John Stinson.....
 Luther Stone.....Framingham, Mass.
 Michael Sweetser.....Reading, “
- 1784 Elijah Allen.....
 John Allen.....
 William Crane.....Stoughton, Mass.
 Jotham Haven.....Framingham, “
 Isaac Knight.....
 Samuel Rockwood.....Holliston, Mass.
 Benoni Shurtleff.....
 John Sweetland.....Attleboro, Mass.
 Jonathan Whitecomb.....
 Azariah Wilson.....Westboro (?), Mass.
 Jonas Woods.....Southboro, “
- 1785 Samuel Barnard.....
 Asa Bennett.....Shrewsbury, Mass.
 Deacon Oliver Damon.....Sudbury, “
 Isaac Goodenough.....“ “
 William Nurse.....
 Simeon Perry.....
 Captain Stephen Richardson.....Royalston, Mass.
 Joel Wright.....Templeton, “

CHAPTER VIII.

EARLY TOWN HISTORY, 1773-1800.

Movement for Incorporation—Opposition to it—Petition for it—Charter Granted—The Name Fitzwilliam—First Town Meeting—Injury of Records—Early Town Officers—Pew Associations—Warning out of Town—Provision for Soldiers—Depreciation of Currency—The Great Road—List of Land-Owners.

AFTER 1769 the meetings of the proprietors were held within the township, and evidently were not attended by many of the non-resident proprietors. Daniel Mellen continued to be chosen to various offices for a few years, but with this exception all of the officers of the proprietorship were chosen from residents, and they originated all the important measures that were adopted.

How early the matter of incorporating Monadnock No. 4 as a town was agitated it is impossible to tell, but from the petition which follows it would appear that in 1768 the settlers were becoming somewhat restive under the proprietors' movements, and were, at least, considering the advantages and disadvantages of an act of incorporation. There was opposition to any movement of this nature, and possibly it extended to many if not most of the non-resident proprietors. Certainly Sampson Stoddard, by far the largest of these, was not ready to sanction any proceedings that favored a plan of incorporation, as will appear from the following :

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esqr. Captain General, Governor and Commander in Chief in and over his Majesty's Province of New Hamp., the Hon^{ble} His Majesty's Council for Said Province—

The Memorial of Sampson Stoddard of Chelmsford in the County of Middlesex in the Province of Massachusetts Bay Shews—

That there is a Tract of Land in the Province of New Hampshire of the contents of about Six Miles Square Granted by the Purchasers of

the Right of John Tufton Mason Esqr. to Your Memorialist and others called the Township of Monadnock No 4—that the Greater part thereof is finally Vested in him, that he has at great Expense Settled a Very Considerable Number of Inhabitants thereon.

Wherefore your Memorialist humbly prays that the Lands afores^d may not be Incorporated into a Town and the Inhabitants there Infranchised with all Town priveledges without their first Giving Notice to him of their Design of applying to y^r Excell^y and honors and your Memorialist Shall (as in duty bound) Ever pray—

Sampson Stoddard.

Portsm^o July 11. 1768.

So far as can be learned from the early records, the movement for incorporation took form at the annual meeting of the proprietors, March 31st, 1773. Doubtless the majority, if not all of those present and voting at that meeting were settlers as well as proprietors. This meeting was held at the house of James Reed, innholder, with John Mellen moderator. James Reed, Esq., John Mellen, and Joseph Hemenway were appointed a committee

to repair to the Govner and Council of this Province to have this township incorporated into a town and to have town privileges as soon as may be.

No full record has been preserved of the proceedings of this committee, but from the fact that the petition presented to the governor was signed by James Reed alone, the probability is that he was not accompanied by the other members of the committee, though he acted under their authority.

The following is the petition :

To His Excellency John Wentworth Esquire Captain General and Commander in Chief in and over His Majestys Province of New Hampshire and Vice Admiral of the Same in Council.

The Petition of James Reed, of Monadnock No. 4 in the County of Cheshire in the Province aforesaid Esqr and Clerk of the Proprietors of said Monadnock No. 4 unto your *Excellency and Honors* humbly Shews.

That your Petitioner with Joseph Hemmenway and John Millens at a legal meeting of s^d Proprietors held in s^d Monadnock No. 4, on the 31st of March last were chosen a committee to Petition this Honourable

Court to incorporate the said Monadnock No. 4 into a Township with the usual Privileges and Franchises of other corporate Towns in said Province, for the following Reasons, viz.

That the Inhabitants of said Monadnock No. 4 have settled a Minister and built a Meeting House and have a large Number residing there, besides others daily coming to settle there. That they humbly conceive their Number Intitles them to the Indulgence of this Hon^{ble} Court as in the present mode of Provincial Taxation they are subject to the Controul of the Selectmen of Neighboring Towns, and they would humbly wish to have the Priviledge of chusing Selectmen and other Town Officers of their own, which would quiet the Minds of the Inhabitants and promote the Interests and good Government of s^d Monadnock No 4.

That being destitute of Town Priviledges the Petitioners cannot legally warm out any vagrants that may come there, and many other Inconveniences.

Wherefore, Your Petitioners, in behalf of the Proprietors humbly pray that this Hon^{ble} Court would grant their Petition and as in duty he and they shall ever pray.

James Reed.

Committeeman and Proprietors' Clark.

The three points made prominent in this petition will be seen to have been :

1. The matter of taxation, from which it is plain that in some way the officers of the adjoining incorporated towns had some oversight of the unincorporated towns as to their taxation, evidently a case of "taxation without representation."
2. It was needful to quiet the minds of the people, as it was
3. To be able to warn off vagrants.

It is to be remembered that this movement was made before the breaking out of the American Revolution, but while the flame of patriotism which was soon to burst forth was smouldering, and needed but some comparatively slight cause to render it uncontrollable. This it found when the cargoes of tea were thrown overboard in the harbor of Boston, an occurrence which rendered this same year, 1773, memorable. During the great excitement which succeeded that event the inhabitants of Monadnock No. 4 received their charter from their king, which must have been among the last of such charters granted by the same authority to any of the towns in Southern New Hampshire.

This charter is here given entire :

Seal of the Province. }	Province of New Hampshire.
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George the Third, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King-Defender of the Faith.

To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting. Whereas our Loyal Subjects and Inhabitants of a Tract of Land within our Province of New Hampshire aforesaid, commonly called and known by the name of Manadnock No (4) containing by estimation about six miles square, have Humbly Petitioned & requested us that they may be erected and incorporated into a Township and enfranchised with the same Powers and Priveledges which other Towns within our said Province, by Law have and enjoy, and it appearing unto us to be conducive to the General Good of Our Said Province as well as of the said Inhabitants in particular by maintaining good order & encouraging the Culture of the Land that the same should be done : Know Ye that we, of our special grace certain knowledge and for the Enouragement and Promotion of the good Purposes and Ends aforesaid ; by and with the advice of our trusty and well beloved *John Wentworth Esqr*, our Governor and Commander in Chief of our said Province and of our Council of the same, Have erected and ordained and by these Presents for us, our Heirs and Successors do will and ordain, that the Inhabitants of the said Tract of Land and others who shall improve and Inhabit therein hereafter, the Same being buttet and bounded as follows (Viz.) Beginning at the West line of Mason's Patent so called, where that crosses the dividing Line between the Province of Massachusetts Bay and the Province of New Hampshire, and runs from thence south Eighty degrees East by said Line, six miles to the South West corner of the South Manadnock, from thence North by the Needle, by said Township, five miles to the North West Corner of y^e South Manadnock aforesaid, from thence North Eighty Degrees west by Midle Manadnock Township, one mile & a quarter to the South West corner thereof, thence North by the needle two miles and forty rods, and from thence North Eighty [degrees West] till it comes to the Patent West Line as lately marked, and from thence Southerly by that Line to the first Bounds mentioned, Be and they are hereby declared to be a Town corporate by the name of **Fitzwilliam**, to have Continuence for ever, with all the Powers and Privileges, authorities, immunities and Franchises which any other Towns in our said Province by Law hold and enjoy, to the said Inhabitants or those who shall hereafter Inhabit these and to their Sucessors forever, allways reserving to us our Heirs & Successors all White Pine Trees, that are or shall be found, being and growing within & upon the Said Tract of Land fit for the Use of our Royal Navy, reserving also to us, our Heirs and

Successors the Power of dividing said Town when it shall be necessary & Convenient for the Inhabitants thereof, Provided nevertheless & tis hereby declared that this Charter and Grant is not intended and shall not in any manner be construed to affect the Private Property of the Soil within the Limits aforesaid, And as the Several Towns within our said Province are by the Laws thereof enabled & authorized to assemble & by the majority of the Voters Present to chuse all officers and transact such affairs as in the said Laws are declared—And We do by these Presents nominate & appoint **James Reed Esqr.** to call the first meeting of said Inhabitants to be held within the Said Town any Time within Thirty Days from the Date hereof, giving Legal Notice of the Time & design of Holding such Meeting, after which the annual Meeting for said Town shall be held for the choice of such Officers and the Purposes aforesaid on **the third Thursday in March** annually.

In Testimony whereof we have caused the Seal of Our Said Province to be hereunto affixed. Witness Our aforesaid Governour and Commander in Chief the **Nineteenth** Day of **May**, in the Thirteenth Year of our reign, Anno Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred & Seventy-Three.

J. WENTWORTH.

By his Excellency's Comand.

With advice of Council.

Theodore Atkinson, Sec'y.

Province of New Hampshire May 19, 1773.

Entered & recorded in the 4th Book of Charters Page 147 and 148.

Attest Theodore Atkinson, Sec'y.

Why the name Fitzwilliam (the son of William) was given to the town we know only through tradition. Rev. John Sabin, in his lecture, makes this statement :

It was named after the Earl of Fitzwilliam. I believe, an Irish Gentleman, then considered a very worthy man. Time has been after the burning of our Meeting House that I wished to remind him of the town named for him and give him an opportunity for his substantial remembrance of this his child. It is supposed that he lives in name and title in a descendant ; at least he did a few years since.

That the Earl of Fitzwilliam was a man of influence and established reputation appears from the fact that Edmund Burke addressed to him one of his important communications relative to British interests, which may be found in Volume VI. of his works, Little & Brown's edition.

This town was doubtless named for this English and Irish

earl, and the strong probability is that he was an acquaintance and friend of Governor John Wentworth, or a connection by marriage. This governor was the second of that name, and had recently been appointed to office by royal authority. For many years the Wentworth family had furnished governors for the province of New Hampshire, and the predecessor of this John Wentworth, Benning Wentworth, had been in the habit of giving the names of his intimate friends and favorites to not a few of the towns for which he obtained charters, and to some counties also. The probability is that his nephew, the last royal governor, followed his example in naming Fitzwilliam.

James Reed called the first meeting of the town under its charter, but no record of that important meeting appears to be in existence. Early in the year 1785 the dwelling-house of Samuel Patrick, then town clerk of Fitzwilliam, was burned. The Town Book of Records was rescued from the fire in a badly damaged condition, but all the loose papers appertaining to the business of the town were entirely destroyed. The rescued book, originally eleven inches long and seven inches wide, was burned upon the edges all around, but most upon the front and ends, and more at the beginning of the book than upon the other side. As a part of the front parchment cover was preserved, it would seem that none of the leaves were entirely consumed, though several leaves are now missing. By counting the folds of the sheets, it is found that four leaves are missing, probably three at the commencement of the book and one at ten or fifteen pages later. All the records of 1773 are gone, the book now commencing with the warrant for the annual meeting in 1774.

In consulting this damaged but still invaluable book, which furnishes the only direct and positive information respecting the business of the town for eleven years—and those the years of the American Revolution—often a word or two at the beginning and end of a line will be missing, but in general the portions remaining uninjured aid us in determining substantially both how much and what has been lost. In the records at the top and bottom of the pages the condition is different, as three

or four lines may be gone from the top of a page and one or two lines from the bottom, which taking together the bottom of one page and the top of the next might make a loss of five or six entire lines and parts of several others. In some such cases, however, a careful comparison of the warrant for the meeting with the action as recorded may show whether the missing record is of much or little consequence.

At the annual town meeting in March, 1785, Caleb Winch, Samuel Patrick, and Sylvanus Reed were chosen "a committee to copy off the records belonging to the town that was in Samuel Patrick's house," but the work thus projected was never accomplished.

Though we have no formal record of the business done in 1773, the call for the town meeting, which was held March 17th, 1774, shows us who five of the officers of the town were when it was first organized, for this call, which is dated March 2d, 1774, was signed by John Mellen and Joseph Grow, selectmen, and was served by Edward Kendall, constable, whose return was made on the day of the meeting, March 17th, 1774, while we find that Edward Kendall, as one of the selectmen, had been previously engaged in laying out a road in the township. The first town clerk was plainly James Reed, as all the earliest town records are in his handwriting.

We have, then, as town officers for 1773 :

Town clerk, James Reed.

Selectmen, John Mellen, Joseph Grow, and Edward Kendall.

Constable, Edward Kendall.

The record of the above-mentioned meeting, March 17th, 1774, is here given in full :

— — — Town being met and — — — Voted and Choose James R[eed Moderator].

Voted and Choose said Reed [Town Clerk].

[Voted and C]hoose said Reed first Select[man].

Voted and Choose Mr. John Mellen 2 Sele[ctman].

Voted and Choose Lieut. Brigham 3 Selectman.

And also Voted the above said Reed, Mellen and Brigham assessors for the present year.

Voted and Choose Levi Brigham Constable and Collector.

Voted and Choose John Mellen Treasurer.

Voted and Choose Joseph Grow and Caleb Winch Tidingmen for the present year.

Voted and Choose Samuel Killpatrick, John Anger, Francis Fullum, David Parey and Stephen Harris High way sveurs.

Voted and Choose Nathaniel Wilder and John Fassett fence vewers.

Voted and Choose John Whitney, James Reed Jr Deer Refs. (Reeves).

Voted and Choose Samuel Killpatrick Lather Sealer.

Voted and Choose Jonas Knights, David Parey Hog Refs or Field Drivers.

Voted and Choose Nathaniel Wilder Svauer of Lumber.

Voted and Choose Joseph Hemenway Clark of the Markett, Sealer of Wats and masuers.

[Voted] the sum of seven pounds [for the] use of a scool for the present year.

Voted that a pound be bult 25 feet square [and that the sides] be laid up 7 feet High with a wooden gate with iron Hinges, all to be Completed by the first of June next to the exceptance of the Town, and John Mellen is bondsman to see the work Don.

Voted the sum of £4. 10. 0. 0. to Defray nacasary Charges and building the above mentioned pound, and to provide scales, Wats, Masuers, etc.

Voted £50. 0. 0. 0. L M to make and repair Roads the present year to be worked out at said — — — after the rate of four pence a nower for each one, the work to be Don in June & September.

Voted that the oners of the 2 corner pews in the Body parte of the Meeting House have Liberty to cut [windows] at the east and west end of the Meeting House for the benifet of those Pews, they doing it and keeping them in Repair at there one cost.

Voted That Town Meetings in this Town for the present be warned by a notification being posted by wrighting on a poste at the Meeting House to be provided for that purpos.

Voted and Excepted of a Road laid out by Edward Kendall and Joseph Grow, 2 of the Selectmen of said Town for the year 1773. Said Road Runs upon the north line of Lott — in the 8 rang Leading south by the House of Joseph — to Lott no 2 in 8 Rang and so on as it is marked and Trod.

A true Entrey of all the Vots and Trans[actions] passed at said meeting.
pr James Reed

Moderator and Town Clark.

The words or passages enclosed in brackets are supplied to fill vacancies in the burnt record. Blanks are left where the proper words cannot be given.

The following entry appears upon the same page with the record given above :

“ of July 1774 then Mr. Stephen Harris took the Charge of our Meeting House to see that the windows was shet and the doors opened.”

Upon this record it may be remarked that this appropriation for educational purposes, apparently small, being only seven pounds, was in reality quite liberal, for money at that time had a great purchasing power. Moreover, if the teacher of the single school received as wages four shillings or four shillings and sixpence per week (sixty-six and two thirds, or seventy-five cents), which was considered in those days a good price, and boarded around, as was the custom, the seven pounds must have supported a school of considerable length. It appears also from this record that the town entered at once upon the business of making and repairing roads, a work previously done at the expense of the proprietors, from which it would seem evident that most of the responsibilities of the proprietorship were immediately assumed by the town. But to this there was one exception, for the proprietors were still bound to pay the salary of the minister, and between the two parties there was a sort of partnership in the meeting-house, for we find both ordering changes and making repairs in that building, and moreover receiving and acting upon petitions from individuals for the privilege of cutting windows, lengthening the seats, or building new pews. As the two parties were made up to a great extent of the same persons, there appears to have been no particular clashing of interests, and they worked together harmoniously for the space of twenty five years, or until 1798, when the proprietors voluntarily relinquished all claims to the meeting-house, upon the town's becoming responsible for the salary of the minister.

A fac-simile of the first leaf of the burnt record book that has been preserved is here given. The original size of the leaf, eleven by seven inches, here reduced in size to five and a half by three and a half inches, is shown by the shaded part upon which the burnt leaf is laid. The margin shows the correct proportionate part of the leaf that is gone.

Upon the first page, as shown in the illustration, is the war-

rant for the meeting held March 17th, 1774, while upon the second page is a part of the record of the meeting.

Another town meeting seems to have been held on August 1st, 1774, at which a petition was presented and acted upon, involving other changes in the meeting-house. This is given entire :

We your humble Petitioners Do ask and Petition for all the Pew ground in the east Gallary exclusive of three seats which we the Subscribers or Proprietors Do Covenant and agree to and with each other to build and Complete [on said] pew ground into one pew and complete the same decently, and your answer or Compliance will oblige your Verey Humble Petitioners. Dated at Fitzwilliam July 4, 1774. Signed Joseph Kneeland, John Herrington, Joseph Potter, Luther Trowbridge, Joshua Herrington Jr. Thomas Tolman, Benjamin Davidson, Ezekiel Mixer, David Perry, John Whitney, Daniel Mellen, John Mellen.

The action of the town upon this petition was as follows :

The votable Inhabitants of Fitzwilliam at a meeting of said Town on the first day of August did take the above Petition under Consideration and did vote that the Request of said Petition be granted to the Subscribers on condition of there fulfilling there Perposalls in making a Hansom Pew in said front Gallery by Rasing the front of the Pew no hier than the Tops of the seat before said pew but the Length of the Banesters and the Rale that the Banesters are set in, and keeping it in Repair by them or there Suxecors, and the windos behind and that they take in as maney Partners as [can be seated] comfortably in said pew and keep it so (long as) they abide in this Town.

Other similar petitions and grants are found recorded upon the proprietors' records.

This matter of obtaining pew ground in the meeting-house that had remained unoccupied, building pews thereon, and occupying the same by companies of individuals, was one of much interest in the early history of this town.

These associations were regularly and, it would seem, legally organized ; they called their meetings (which appear to have been frequently held) in a formal manner, and kept a particular record of all their proceedings. Two of these record books came into the hands of and were preserved by the late Captain William F. Perry. The oldest contains the records

of one of these pew organizations, beginning with December 8th, 1779.

The petitioners and grantees in all these cases were invariably men, but they seem to have had no objection to the society of women in their pews.

Voted Betsy Dodge set on said Lanes' Right.

Voted Lucretia Newton into said Pew.

Voted that Anna Harris, Drissilla Poor, Drissilla Platts to sit in said Pew During Pleasure.

The second of these pew record books contains sixty or eighty pages of the proceedings of another pew association. The date is August 1st, 1791 :

The Names of the Persons that own Rites in said Pew—

Lieut. Josiah Hartwell, Chistophir Osgood, Stephen Harris, Thomas Bruce, John Whitney, John Amadon, Nathaniel Glezon, Nathaniel Grover, Joseph Pratt, Moses Pratt, Josiah Drury, Joel Millen, Ward Fassett, Abel Angier. A Meeting Warned and hild at time and place, and 1st Chose a moderator to Governed said meeting.

2d. Voted and Choose Stephen Harris Jun. Clark for said Pew.

3d. Voted that Betsy Park shall sit in s^d Pew on Whallem Fassitt's rite in s^d Pew.

Voted that Rocksene Amadon shall Set in s^d Pew on John Osgood's rite.

At a later meeting, among many other acts the following appears :

Voted that if any Porson or Porsons shall put into s^d Pew any of the Town's pepal more than tow Sunday bewins meeting shall forfeit his rite in said Pew.

This plainly has reference to the owners seating visitors or other persons in the pew "bewins" or *between* the meetings of the association.

Voted that if any Porsen or Porsens shall By a rite in said Pew shall make Reesquest (request) to the Clark of said Pew.

In 1808. "Voted susy Pennemon on Demons' rite."

The last record in this curious book was made in 1809.

The rules of this pew association were very strict, for they

voted that "if any person or persons shall behave himself out of order on the Sunday shall quite his rite," while no one was permitted to sell his right to any person "that the proprietors shall not think proper."

It is hardly to be supposed that such an order of things prevailed in the first meeting-houses of the neighboring towns.

1775. The difficulties and disputes between the colonies and Great Britain had now assumed large and alarming proportions, and henceforward for the space of eight years in the history of this town its acts will be found to have been influenced greatly by the wants of the country at large, and the calls for funds, provisions, and troops. These matters will have their appropriate place in the chapter on the Revolutionary War.

March 16th, 1775, the annual town meeting was held which had been called by James Reed and John Mellen, selectmen. Joseph Hemenway was moderator, and John Locke was chosen town clerk. It was voted "that all the freeholders shall vote in this meeting." John Mellen, Levi Brigham, and John Locke were chosen selectmen and made assessors. John Mellen was chosen treasurer and constable, but Daniel Mellen was accepted in his place for the latter office. After the choice of the other town officers, it was voted to raise seven pounds for the support of a school, five pounds to provide a town stock and to defray town charges, and fifty pounds for the making and repairing of roads to be worked out at fourpence per hour.

Voted to accept the pound built by Nathaniel Wilder, Mr. John Millen, ingaging in his behalf that the gate should be hung in a fortnight.

Voted to allow Steven Harris ten shillings for service done in cleansing the meeting house.

Voted to allow Levi Brigham for service done as Constable in warning out Moses Whitney and family in 1774 the sum of two shillings.

Under the same date, March 16th, 1775, is the following entry :

then Ichabod Smith undertook for one year to take care of y^e meeting house, to see the doors opened and shut at proper seasons thearefor, the

windows properly shut and y^e house properly swept for y^e sum of six shillings, by order of the Selectmen.

The other matters acted upon at the annual meeting in 1775 were of secondary importance.

Of the "warning out" alluded to in the record above, this may here be said :

Rindge was settled and incorporated earlier than Fitzwilliam, and we learn from the history of that town that "for many years nearly all who removed hither without regard to their social or financial standing were warned out."

As the adjoining towns of Jaffrey and Fitzwilliam pursued substantially the same course, it was undoubtedly the common custom of the times. It will be remembered that one of the reasons assigned for seeking incorporation was to obtain power to warn out vagrants. And so all were warned out. This seems to have been done as a legal formality, rather than because families of character and means were not welcome as settlers. Very early the towns had, by statute law, the authority to free themselves from the presence of dangerous persons and of individuals and families that might become a tax upon them as paupers. Some of this class of persons resembled the tramps of the present day in that they believed that the community owed them a living, and that if this could not be easily gained by manual labor it must come in the way of charity. But there were others who differed from the tramps of our day, in that they were not single men, but had families that they took with them wherever they went. Sometimes these families were large, and it did not require a very long residence in any place to obtain a legal settlement, and so be able to claim support from the town in case of sickness or extreme poverty.

To provide against this liability, the selectmen had authority to order the constable to warn such persons and families out of town, and to remove them by force if they did not obey the command. Occasionally the orders were enforced, but generally they seem to have been wholly disregarded, and it was expected that they would be. Some of these persons afterward became the most respectable and responsible citizens in the town, like Deacon Griffin, who was town treasurer for

thirty years in succession. In some cases the warrant was very brief, while in others it was made out with considerable formality. A copy of one of the latter class is given in full :

In His Majesty's Name, we require You to repair to the residence of Abner Ball now residing in Fitzwilliam and Mary Ball and Elizabeth Ball and Jerome Ball, the offspring of the said Abner Ball and Mary his wife with all their effects, to warn and bid depart out of the Town of Fitzwilliam to the place from whence they came within the space of — days, no more to return upon their peril. Heareof fail not and make due return of this warrant to one or more of the Selectmen with the day of the date of said warning as you would avoid the penalty of the law made and provided in that case.

Given under our hands and seal this 22d day of March 1775 and in ye fifteenth year of his majesties' Reign, George ye third.

Ye 7th of April 1775

John Mellen }
John Locke } Select Men.

Warning given and ye warrant returned to the selectmen by Daniel Mellen Constable. A true entry. John Locke Town Clerk.

It might be inferred that Mr. Ball did not like the command which was given to him "in his Majesty's name," as he was in the Revolutionary army fighting against "his Majesty" before the year was out.

The following list is compiled from the records and is given as approximately fixing the date when the persons named came into the town. The list given is not complete, as it is known that many persons were warned out whose names do not appear in the records. The recording of the warrants seems to have been in some measure optional.

LIST OF PERSONS RECORDED AS WARNED OUT OF TOWN.

- 1775 Abner and Mary Ball and their children Mary and Jerome and Elizabeth.
- 1776 Samuel and Hannah White and their child Diadamia. Reuben and Sarah Parmenter and ch. Joel.
- 1778 Jedediah and Deborah Smith—Eleazer and Mary Pratt—Mary Buckman—Nathaniel and Hannah Rugg and ch. Reuben and Rue.
- 1780 Daniel and Martha Biglow and ch. Amos—Rachel and Thankful Boutwell—Susanna and Mary or Molly and Lucy and Peter Adams.
- 1782 Robert Homer and his wife and ch. John and William and Moosha (?) and James and Benjamin and David.
- 1783 Mary Rice, so-called, and "Salla Haggity."
- 1785 Samuel and Lydia Taylor—Sarah Taylor—Dolly Whitney—Mar-

- garet Walls—John Walls—Joshua and Sarah Twitchell and ch. Polly and Joshua—Ichabod Hayward or Howard.
- 1787 Zaccheus and Susanna Hall and ch. Zaccheus—Ebenezer and Meribah Robbins and ch. Ebenezer and Noah and William—Hackaliah and Nelly Bridges and ch. William—Eli and Thankful Smith—Benjamin Elwell—Benjamin Puffer—Thomas and Ruth Conant and ch. Polly—Phineas Reed—Ebenezer Colburn—Ebenezer May—Samuel Griffin—James and Elizabeth Stone and ch. James and Jonathan and Jerusha and Betty—Solomon and Mary Miller and ch. Daniel and Persis and Submit and Lydia—Jonas and Mary Gary and ch. Polly—Asa and Tamasin Goodale and ch. Elnathan—Micah and Elizabeth Perry and ch. Rhoda—Samuel and Rhoda Rockwood and ch. Martin—Edward and Eunice Payson and ch. David—Ruth Jackson.
- 1789 Jonathan and Elizabeth Broadstreet—Allen and Hannah Stone—Levi and Azubah Stockwell—Hiram and Phebe Prescott—Aaron—→ Gary—Samuel and Lydia Patch and ch. Oliver and Samuel and Abraham and Lydia and Susanna—James and Betsey Morse and ch. Elizabeth and Ede and Joseph and Silas and Asa and Mitte—Caleb and Abigail Deeth and ch. Polly—Jonathan Pierce and wife and ch. Huldah and Polly and Esther and Rhoda and Anna.

The following will explain itself :

At a meeting of ye Inhabitants of the Town of Fitzwilliam held on ye 10th day of May 1775. Voted and chose ye Rev^d Mr. Benjamin Brigham to Represent ye Town in ye Provincial Congress to be held at Exeter on ye — day of may instant, with power to act in behalf of himself and his Constituents in all things for the public good in Conjunction with the Representatives of the several Towns in this province, for the space of six months or untill another be chosen in his place.

John Mellen, Moderator.

Entry John Locke, Town Clerk.

Thus the honored pastor was chosen the first representative from this town to what soon became the General Court of New Hampshire.

It will be remembered that a few days before this appointment the struggle with Great Britain had assumed the form of open hostility and actual war, in the fierce attack upon the royal troops at Lexington and Concord, Mass. Weighty responsibilities, therefore, rested upon the Provincial Congress about to meet at Exeter. From all that can be learned, the choice of Mr. Brigham was eminently wise, as he was, without doubt, a man of excellent judgment and a firm and devoted patriot.

The Provincial Congress (doubtless the one that met in

Exeter in May, 1775), having passed a resolve that Swanzey and Fitzwilliam should unite in sending a representative to that body, the town held a meeting, probably near the close of 1775, to consider the matter, when it was

Voted that it is the opinion of ye Town that by being cupled with Swanzey they have not a free and full representation, agreeable to the advice of the Continental Congress.

Voted not to meet with Swanzey to Elect a Representative to Represent them in Congress.

Voted to send a Committee to Swanzey at their meeting to signify the Reason of their not meeting with them for the above purpose.

Voted that Majo Brigham, Majo Farrar, Lieut. Hutchings consist of the above Committee.

John Farrar, Moderator.

A true Entry John Locke, Town Clerk.

Swanzey had a larger population at that time than Fitzwilliam, and the people of this town perceived that their candidate would probably fail of an election. At a later date the plan of the Provincial Congress seems to have been adopted, and these two towns constituted a single representative district.

1776. A part of the record of the annual town meeting held March 21st, 1776, it is impossible to make out, but what follows is legible :

After the appointment of the necessary town officers, the town

Voted to Deacon John Locke for service done as a committee to wait upon the Superior Court at Keen in october last in order to lay before the Court some greavences and for service done as one of the Committee of Correspondence and Saifty for the last year, the sum of £0. 19. 0. 0. for expenses only.

Also allowed Joseph Hemenway "for service done as a committeeman to attend a County Congress for expenses and horse the sum of £0. 19. 0. 0." To Ichabod Smith was voted six shillings "for taking care and sweeping the meeting [house] one year."

"Also allowed Lient. Levi Brigham for supporting John Camp and family, by order of the selectmen, the sum of ten

shillings." This John Camp appears to have settled in the township before its incorporation, and for this reason could not be legally compelled to leave it.

A road laid out by the selectmen having been accepted, and a recess of half an hour having been taken, the town

Voted that no cattle be suffered to run at large in the Town belonging to Non-Residence, and that the field Drivers upon complaint coming to them shall drive all such Non-Resident cattle out of the bounds of the Town taking witness that they went no farther and apply to the Town for reasonable cost.

Voted that the Selectmen make inquiry Concerning the maintainance of those paupers who came into Town before it was incorporated.

At this meeting no money was raised for the school, as, for some reason not named, the amount raised in 1775, for this purpose, had not been expended. Three pounds were raised to meet town charges.

1777. On March 20th, 1777, the annual town meeting appears to have been held, at which the usual town business was transacted, but the dates are so often lacking in the records that it seems next to impossible to harmonize the different entries. Ten pounds were raised "for the use of a school," forty shillings to meet town charges, and thirty pounds for repairing highways "to be worked out at fourpence per hour." "Voted to pay for travel three miles per hour." Ichabod Smith was again paid six shillings "for keeping the Meeting House." "Voted and chose Maj. Asa Brigham to meet the Town of Walpole and consult affairs."

This last action doubtless had reference to Revolutionary matters.

1778. Annual meeting. The town "voted to give up a note that the Rev. Mr. Brigham gave to the Town," the value of which is not stated. This was probably done on account of the depreciation of the currency in which his salary had been paid. With the same intent, doubtless, the town voted at this meeting "and raised thirty pounds to addition of Rev. Mr. Brigham's salary for this present year."

Also it was voted that "the school money should be spent in either squadron as they shall think proper," from which

it would appear that the town had now been divided into something like school districts, which were called squadrons.

Having given the names of the officers of the town, the amount of the several appropriations, etc., for the earliest years after the incorporation, it is deemed best to tabulate the same for the years that followed in a separate chapter, unless, as sometimes happened, there seems to be some special reason for giving them here.

1779. Annual meeting. The town "Voted three hundred pounds in addition to Rev. Mr. Brigham's Salary for this present year." Amos Knight, constable, is allowed four pounds "for carrying of a family to Winchendon in the year 1778." Ten shillings was the allowance made "for the cair of the meeting-house" this year.

How much the paper currency had depreciated at this time has not been accurately ascertained—indeed, the depreciation was greater or less in different localities; but not long after the date of this meeting one dollar in silver was allowed in paying taxes to be equal to seventy-five dollars in paper money. The depreciation of the currency caused so much trouble that in 1781 the Legislature made an authorized scale of depreciation, by which contracts made at different times might be legally adjusted. This scale is given in Chapter XI.

The schools not being in a satisfactory condition, the town met the second Wednesday in June, 1779, to consider the matter, when it was

Voted to choose a Commity of Five men to provide Schools in Eitch Squadron and also to provide houses for to Ceept the Schools in and also to see the money Laid out in the proper season—and this Commity is as Below, Mr. Caleb Winch, Mr. Levi Brigham, Mr. Joseph Nurse Mr. John Locke Mr. Samuel Kendall.

It is supposed there were five squadrons at this time, and that one member of the committee was chosen from each squadron.

A Convention sitting at Concord on June 5th, 1779, proposed among other things a plan of government for the State of New Hampshire, and the town assembled July 13th, 1779, to express approbation or disapprobation of the same; but its

action (which was recorded on the bottom lines of one page, and the upper lines of the next page of the record book) it is impossible to ascertain.

At this meeting the subject of a new valuation of the town was considered, and a committee of five was raised to report upon this subject at the next March meeting.

December 7th, 1779. The town met "to joyne with the town of Swanzey to act upon the following articles," one of which appears to have had reference to the choice by the united towns of a representative in the General Court, when the town "Voted, and chose John Mellen, Esq., for their Representative to sarve in the General Court at Exeter."

1780. June 28th. The town "Voted and excepted (accepted) the Cariage made by the Committee chosen for that purpose," and also raised "£2500 for the pay of the sholders in the Continental Army."

And July 26th, 1780, the town raised £5000 for the same purpose, and "£6000 to purchase 5467 weight of beef" for the army.

Also the town ordered the horse-sheds near the church "to be move oft the grown they now stand on."

Also it was voted that "the Inhabitants mit build horse stables on the Common, if they should think fit," only that "the Selectmen should mark out the grown on the Common where the stables should be made."

Other requisitions were made by the Council and House of Representatives of New Hampshire for beef to support the Continental army, and the printed copy of one of these has been found among the ancient papers in the town clerk's office of Fitzwilliam. This is a call "for raising 1,400,000 weight of Beef," and it was done by requiring the several towns, parishes, and distriets in the State to furnish their proportion. The act for this purpose was adopted by the House of Representatives, January 26th, 1781, and enacted by the Council on the day following. One third of the quantity was to be ready "by the last day of March next, in Order to be salted, one fourth part by the fifteenth day of July next, one other fourth part by the first day of Sept. next, and the Residue of

said Beef, being one sixth part thereof," by the first day of December following. All the arrangements necessary for carrying this requisition into effect were made, and the proportion for each town to raise definitely stated. Fitzwilliam was to provide six thousand eight hundred and thirty-four pounds, Jaffrey nine thousand one hundred and fifty-eight, Rindge thirteen thousand seven hundred and fifty, Richmond twelve thousand five hundred and eighty-eight, Keene fourteen thousand one hundred and thirty-six. The beef was all to be "good, well salted and packed in Barrels, each barrel to contain 240 weight, net," but good pork would "be received of any Town and allowed after the Rate and Proportion of eleven pounds of pork for fifteen pounds of Beef." The penalty for failure to meet this requisition was a fine equal to "double the value of the beef required of them, for the use of the State," "and the same shall be added to their next State and Continental Tax, without any other proof or Evidence than the want of a Certificate that the same has been delivered."

The large amounts raised by the town for the pay of the soldiers, and to purchase beef as given above, it is to be remembered, were to be collected from the taxpayers in the depreciated currency of the times, when it took seventy-five dollars or more in paper money to make one dollar in silver. And the same fact is to be borne in mind when we find the town allowing twenty shillings per hour for work upon the highways.

As was stated in the sketch of John Mellen, Esq., given in the chapter concerning the early settlers of Fitzwilliam, he was appointed an assistant collector to carry into effect the requisition of the Council and House of Representatives respecting the above-mentioned supply of beef for the army, and Cheshire County was assigned to him for this purpose. It was a responsible and delicate office for any one to hold because of the poverty of the people generally, and the urgency of the call for immediate supplies; and notwithstanding all the efforts of the collector, and in the very face of the threatened fine, some of the towns were slow to respond to the call or furnished only a part of their quota. This failure led the Committee of

Safety to associate John Mellen and Colonel David Webster as special officers to visit the delinquent towns and to do everything possible that the needed supply might be forthcoming.

1781. The town "Voted to pay the Remainder of the Beef and the hier of the Sholders which is two thousand four hundred and thirty-four pounds." This was done at a meeting January 15th ; and February 14th, 1781, the town, among other acts for raising the quota of soldiers for the Continental army, voted "Twelve thousand dollars for to pay our Contentenles at their passing muster."

March 15th, 1781, at the annual meeting after the choice of the usual town officers, fifteen hundred pounds were appropriated for the schools, and three thousand pounds for the highways, "to be worked out at eighteen shillings per ouer." Also that the assessors should "make a new Valuation this present year." The town allowed "Stephen Harris four bushels of Ingun corn or the value of in money for taking car of the meeting house in 1780."

Fitzwilliam March 15, 1781. The Town of Fitzwilliam Dr. to fifteen Dayes of making Rates at 2 shillings and eight pence per day Lawful Money old way equal to rie at Four shillings per bushel, £2. 0. 0.

Daniel Mellen.

Fitzwilliam March 9, 1781. The Town of Fitzwilliam Dr. to me for two days' service to attend a Convention at Temple on the seventh Day of March £45.

Daniel Mellen.

The use of horse and expenses of travel were doubtless included in this charge, which at seventy-five for one, would be in silver, six shillings (one dollar) per day, or at ninety for one, five shillings per day.

July 25th, 1781, the town "voted to raise our Cotto (Quota) of beef, for the army which is 683½ pounds," already aluded to.

Voted to give Sixth Dollars in hard money per hundred for said Beef.

Voted to raise 4 hundred and Ten hard Dollars for pay for said Beef.

Voted that our Continental Shoulders shall have—Dollars in the

Rume of one thousand paper Dollars. (This blank cannot be filled.)

Voted that the Sessexsors (assessors) shall tax the non-residents.

Voted to give five shillings per bushel for rye.

Voted to raise £126 to pay the Continental Shoulders their first year's pay.

The selectmen were appointed a committee to petition the General Court to "grant us liberty to have a recorder of deeds in said town."

September 26th, 1781, an article being in the warrant to pay certain soldiers, the town

Voted to pass over the article till the Selectmen shall see how they can agree with mr. muzzey and Mr. harris and Samuel winch in hard money.

At a meeting October 5th, 1781, the town "Voted to pay Forty nine Gallons of West India Rum." This was for the army. November 5th, 1781, the town "voted to pay the three months' men their hier," and to raise "Forty nine Dollars to pay for the Rhom."

Voted twenty pounds for the Chools in the Town in lue of the fifteen hundred pounds old Emission which was granted last March for that purp[ose].

Voted and chose Joseph Nichols, Deacon John Locke, Samuel Patrick a Committee to give our Representative instructions, and that this Committee should make Report of their proseinds (proceedings) at the jurnment of the meeting.

At an adjourned meeting in November the town met and received the report of the committee named above, and "then the Instructions was given of Mr. Abner Stone." Mr. Stone was the Representative elect. In the warrant for this meeting, article fifth was,

To know the minds of the Town if they dont think necessary to give their Representative Instruction and to Enquire [if] Reasons can be given that we have such Burthens laid when their is such a Scarciety of Cash among us by [reason] of the Old Emission being called in and the silver not [being ready] for circulation, and that new Emission Bills is us nothing—and act thereon, etc.

The exact words of this article cannot be determined, nor is there any other record of the election of Abner Stone as Representative. That he was chosen and instructed is plain, but the copy of the instructions given was probably consumed with the town clerk's office about three or four years later. A copy of the instructions given Major Elisha Whitecomb about two years later has been preserved and is inserted in the proper place.

1782. March 21st, the usual town officers were chosen, and at an adjourned meeting in May of the same year a committee consisting of Lieutenant Levi Brigham, Stephen Harris, and Lieutenant Caleb Winch was raised "to provide the Beef, if needed, for the Continental Army." A vote was also taken which seems to refer to a return to specie payments in paying the State tax. A large committee was raised to divide the school money and "provid Choolmasters in eith Squadron."

Also the town voted to send Joseph Nichols to attend a convention at Concord.

1783. At the annual meeting no special business of importance was transacted, but considerable attention was paid to the matter of roads, and one hundred and forty pounds were raised "to pay the last three years' men their second years' pay."

July 29th, 1783. A committee was appointed to prepare instructions to be given to Major Elisha Whitecomb, Representative elect for the district comprising the towns of Fitzwilliam and Swanzey and report at an adjourned meeting.

Also "voted not to pay the obligation which the selectmen have given to Joseph Fassett." From the warrant for the meeting it appears that this has reference to a note given to Mr. Fassett for one year's service in the Continental army, but we have no means of judging correctly respecting the merits of the question upon which the town acted.

August 14th, 1783. The committee to prepare instructions made their report. A copy of the instructions is here given.

Instructions to their Representative in the General Court, 1783 :

At a Legal Meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Fitzwilliam, held upon adjournment August 14th, 1783; Voted to give their Representative for the ensuing year, the following Instructions:

To Major Elisha Whitcombe Sr. You being chosen to represent the Towns of Swansey and Fitz William for the present year in the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire;—The Town of Fitzwilliam, a part of your Constituents, in Compliance with the request of said assembly, and from a Sense of Duty at this Critical period, do now openly, candidly, and Sincerely Speak and instruct you, not only with respect to the Article recommended, but other things we conceive necessary to the well being of the Community. We shall begin with the Recommendation of the Honorable Congress, relative to an alteration proposed in the Eighth Article of the Confederation and perpetual union between the thirteen united states of America.

Congress, we find, View it Expedient and even Necessary, that such an alteration, as they have recommended be made; and the General Assembly of this state appear to be of the same mind; for they say “they are fully convinced of the Expediency and utility of the Measure” —with all Due Deference to the collected Wisdom of the Continent and of this State; as we are called upon to shew our minds, we would say, that we have taken this matter into deliberate and mature consideration; and are of opinion that the proposed alteration is neither Expedient or necessary. We conceive that it cannot be so just and equitable a Mode of proportioning Taxes, by the number of Inhabitants, of every age, Sex and condition as by the Value of Land, etc., which each State is possessed of & which enables each State to pay the proportion—we apprehend, that, according to the present proposed method of Proportioning Taxes, there is a door opened for Some States to be eased and others burdened, but Reason, Justice, and Revelation Demand an Equality, that each State pay in proportion to what it is worth; and no more— And as the number of Inhabitants according to the proposed alteration, is to be taken triennially—and as it is found necessary for proportioning taxes within each State to take the valuation of all Lands, etc., we conceive that by the proposed alteration much needless Cost must arise to the good people of these States, already Loaded with Taxes; and know not which way to discharge them—nor can we think that the numbering of Souls is a justifiable method: witness the conduct of David and dismal consequences thereof—left no doubt upon Sacred Record for national admonition.

We think it advisable, that one mode of Valuation, both as to poles and possession, should be adopted throughout the united States; and as this appears to us the most Rational and equitable plan that can be devised; altho we are Sensible there can be no mode fixed upon, but that some objections may be raised against it.

We do therefore recommend it to you, Sir, to use your influence to prevent any alteration being made in the above-mentioned Eighth Article of the Confederation.

We shall now take the liberty to address you upon some other subjects, which we conceive important and necessary, in our present Situation of Affairs.

By a Resolution of Congress of the 21 of October, 1780, we find they have promised the officers of the american army, half pay during life—and by a resolve of said Congress, bearing date March 22, 1783, they have engaged them five years full pay instead of the half pay promised before—upon which we would observe that we have ever been and still are ready to Exert ourselves in Supporting our army, and to Reward those who have jeopardated their lives for us in the High places of the field, fought our battles, Bled in our Cause, and under God, have been our defence—we are willing, we say, amply to reward them—"none deserve more highly than our brave army—none shall have our money more freely, so far as is Justly Due; and if there has been any failure on the part of the government in fulfilling their contracts, let the injury and all their just Demands be made up to them as soon as may be"—Yea, so ready and cheerful are we to have them fully compensated for their services, that we are willing, if it cannot otherwise be effected, To allow Both officers and Soldiers, over and above their Stipulated wages, one years full pay—far be it from us to wrong our Soldiers;—we are desirous to settle honorably with them; and seasonably and fully discharge all our public & foreign Debts.

But we cannot See the Reasonableness and Justice of giving the officers half pay during life or full pay for the term of five years, after they are Discharged from the Service—we think that the soldiers who have born the burden and heat of the day as well as the officers, have an equal Right to claim a share; in proportion to their pay.

We doubt not but that Both officers and Soldiers have suffered much in their Countries Cause and the temporal interests of many have hereby been diminished—and has not this been the case with thousands that have generally been at Home—they have many a time been called off from their employments, been obliged to gird on the harness and take the field for a time in the common defence; & why ought they not to be rewarded over and above their Stipulated pay, in proportion to the time they were gone and Services which they performed?—it appears to be as reasonable as that the officers of our army should thus be rewarded.

Besides do not the officers of our army hope & expect to share in the Blessings of Peace and independence? We are willing they should; why then are they not willing to Suffer with us, to lend a helping hand to support us under our Burdens?— We think they ought to be—and not

make government instead of Being a Blessing, an insupportable Burden to the people.

We cannot see if they have a reasonable recompense for their services, why they do not stand upon an equal footing with their Brethren. We therefore request you, Sir, to use your influence to prevent this pay being given to the officers of our army, as we cannot consent to it or anything that is so subversive of the Principles of the american Revolution.

Further, we must Depend upon your Exertions, and if need be, that you Strain every nerve to prevent the return of those persons called Tories, or absentees, who have withdrawn themselves from us, gone over to the Enemy, and either virtually or actually taken up arms against us. And many of them Shed the Blood of their Brethren—in the judgment of charity we cant but view them in an odious light—they deserve censure—yea, many of them have long since, forfeited their heads as well as their estates to their countries Justice—we doubt not but their situation is disagreeable, and that things have turned out quite contrary to their wish and Expectation ; but are we to blame for that ? had they chose it they might have continued with us & enjoyed their estates which we view they have now forfeited and all the priveledges and immunities of free citizens ; and Shared in the Blessings of independence, but they have chosen their side and we desire they would abide their choice, and not Presume to trouble us any inore—Friendship to them and Safety to ourselves and dear Country forbid them to be any more incorporated with us—We have sufficiently proved them and understand their tempers and disposition by their inhuman and savage conduct toward us. We are convinced that we cannot put any confidence in them, they have proved themselves traitors to their country—Can we then receive you into our Bosoms again ? by no means, let them therefore depart and repair to the frozen Regions of Acadia, the place destined for them by their Royal Master, and spend the rest of their days in deep Repentance for their Past follies.

And as Religion is much Decayed in our Land, the Lord's Day shamefully profaned, the holy name of God abused and all manners of vice prevalent and Barefaced, we expect that you will use your Best endeavors to have such Laws enacted and put in Execution, as shall tend to suppress Vice, Secure the honor of God's holy name and the Sanctification of the Sabbath, and to promote Religion and useful Literature among us.

And that you give your constant and seasonable attendance at Court, in the time of its Sessions that neither your Constituents nor the Public may become Sufferers by your neglect, but a word to the wise is sufficient.

At a legal meeting of the Inhabitants of the Town of Fitzwilliam on the 14th day of this instant, August. Voted That These Instructions

Should be Deliver to you, Sir, by the hand of Ensⁿ Samuel Kendall, at your house in Swansey.

December 8th, 1783. The town "voted to reconsider a former vot that had been past in a former Town meeting for a Lottery in said Town." As a close examination fails to bring to light anything further about this lottery, the record of the vote authorizing it must have been made in that part of the record book that was burned. Of course it is impossible to state the object of the lottery.

At another meeting held soon after December 8th, the town "Chose Ensign Samuel Kendall as a member to and in the General Court of this State until the first Wednesday of June next."

"Voted and empower said member to vote in House of Delegates for the Continental Congress."

"Voted that the Clerk should not send the votes for Counsellor to the Cort Committee who are to sent." The last-mentioned vote is not easily explained, but the vote immediately before it would indicate that the General Court elected members of the Continental Congress.

1784. The town "chose Mr. Josiah Hartwell a member to send to the County Convention to be convened at Peterborough by adjournment on the last Tuesday of February next."

"Voted that the wife and child of Abraham Rice, Jr., should be set up at a public Vandu at the lowest Bider."

Of course this action refers to the support of these persons as paupers, and they were bid off by Lieutenant Benjamin Boyem (Byam) at ten shillings per week.

"Voted to choose a committee to send to Mr. Abraham Rice to hear (if) Mr. Rice wont du Sumting to support his sunes wife." And Deacon John Fassett, Ensign Samuel Kendall, and Mr. Josiah Hartwell were chosen to attend to this business.

March 15th, 1784. A meeting was held "pursuant to a precept From the General Court" for the choice of "a president for said State of New Hampshire." Mesheck Weare was elected, but enfeebled by age and long and laborious service for the State, he resigned his office before the close of the year.

At the same meeting the town voted for two senators for the county of Cheshire, and cast twenty votes for Benjamin Bellows, Esq., and twenty votes for Thomas Aplin, Esq.

This was the first election of President of New Hampshire and senators, of which we have any account, and it took place very soon after the adoption of the State Constitution in 1784.

March 18th, 1784. The office of collector was put up to be given to the lowest bidder, and Stephen Harris' bid for twenty-two silver dollars was the lowest. Moses Drury and Reuben Pratt were Mr. Harris' bondsmen. A committee of seven was raised to divide the school money "and to provide school Masters and Misters." A committee was raised "to say where the school houses should stand in Ech Squadron," and to build them, consisting of Abner Haskell, Jonathan Whitney, Joseph Haskell, Josiah Hartwell, Abner Stone, and John Sweetland, and one hundred and fifty pounds were raised to build the same.

The record of this meeting, March 18th, 1784, is the last which was entered in the record book that was saved from the burning of the town clerk's house.

1785. The town was no longer united with any other for the choice of a Representative.

September 26th. The town "voted to Except (accept) Rev. Mr. Brigham's orders for part or all his sallery for the year Eighty five."

This was many years before the town assumed the support of the pastor.

"the town voted to have the Selectmen distress Joshua Willard for his collection if not recovered without." Joshua Willard was collector of taxes in 1780.

1786. "Voted to give Abraham Rice, Jr., two months to com and settle with the town for the cost his wife has been to the Town."

The town voted to Abner Stone among other services and expenses incurred "for a horse to Walpole and himself and horse to Hubbardston to settle with Mr. Willard" 2 pounds 10 shillings. Mr. Willard, collector in 1780, had removed to Hubbardston, Mass.

The town also voted to pay Elisha Whitcomb (of Swanzey) its part of his expenses while "in the house."

What appears in the above vote respecting Mr. Abner Stone's journey to Walpole may, very probably, be explained in this manner.

Under the administration of the royal Governor, Benning Wentworth, New Hampshire claimed that its territory included all that now constitutes the State of Vermont. At the same time New York claimed that its eastern boundary was the Connecticut River in the region north of Massachusetts, while the last-mentioned State regarded itself as the owner of at least a part of the disputed territory. Governor Wentworth went so far as to give charters to one hundred and thirty-eight towns west of the Connecticut River, but New York treated all his acts in this direction as null and void. In 1777 the people of what is now the State of Vermont took measures to become an independent State under the name of the State of Vermont. Sixteen towns on the east side of the Connecticut River asked to be admitted and become a part of this new State. So far as Vermont was concerned, there was no serious objection to this proposal, but New Hampshire made a vigorous opposition to such an inroad upon her territory.

The controversy was long, and maintained with much spirit. Different views prevailed in all the towns most interested, and this fact led to a convention of delegates from the people upon both sides of the Connecticut River, and this convention met at Walpole (as a central point for the gathering), November 15th, 1780, to consider the situation.

It is not certainly known upon which side in this controversy the people of Fitzwilliam ranged themselves, but as many of the towns in Cheshire County, such as Hinsdale, Richmond, Chesterfield, Walpole, and others, favored the plan of uniting with the towns in Eastern Vermont, there could have been here nothing like indifference concerning the result. The probability is that Mr. Abner Stone, who was a prominent man in Fitzwilliam, was a delegate from this town in that convention, and that Fitzwilliam was loyal to New Hampshire. That the entire scheme collapsed in about two

years, and that the western boundary of New Hampshire is the western bank of the Connecticut River, all the parties concerned have had abundant reason to be thankful.

1787. "Voted to warn out all such persons as shall come into the town as Inhabitants."

"Voted to fence the Burying Yard."

"Voted to build a pound in said Town." And to build it with stone, twenty-five feet square within the walls, and to set the same by the house of Joseph Farwell. Likewise

"Voted to build said pound 4 feet thick at bottom and 1½ feet thick at top and 6 feet high"—meaning the walls of it.

And then provision was made for "a good timber frame on the top" of the wall, and "a Gate lock." At this meeting the financial condition of the town received due attention, and a committee previously appointed made their report, from which the following brief extract is made :

"Fitzwilliam March the 12th 1787.

in the old Wriconing (reckoning) there remaned for Samuel patick to collect for the year 1781 and their Remains in Samuel Patick's hands £2. 8. 2. 1—

as Treasurer of in old paper money and to allow seventy five for one it amounts to in silver money."

The report above-named was long, and, in all its parts, not easy of comprehension, as is evident from the single item just quoted.

It covered the space of about six years, and had particular reference to uncollected tax bills. Receipts and payments were presented in this report in the same connection, and the blanks, which were somewhat numerous, were doubtless filled to the satisfaction of the voters, by verbal statements and explanations. The amount due the town for taxes at that time appears to have been about two hundred and eight pounds.

The collections seem to have been made about as promptly as at the present day.

The subject of repairing and straightening what was called "the Great Road" through Fitzwilliam was considered by the town April 4th, 1787, when the owners thereof offered to give the new land that would be needed and accept as remun-

neration the land through which the old road was laid. This offer was accepted.

1788. January 3d. The town chose Caleb Winch as a delegate to the convention called to meet at Exeter on the second Wednesday of February, 1788, "for the purpose of Excepting or Rejecting the new form of Government."

The committee to prepare instructions for Mr. Winch consisted of Rev. Mr. Benjamin Brigham, Mr. Benjamin Wilson, Mr. Josiah Hartwell, Deacon John Locke, and Mr. Abner Stone, and January 17th the town accepted the form of instructions prepared.

"Voted to allow Lieut. Levi Brigham £7. 1—6—0 for orders which he lost."

The first meeting of the town to vote for representatives in the Federal Congress, and for electors to choose a President and Vice-President, was called for December 15th, 1788. Votes were given for three representatives and five electors. For the former Nicholas Gilman had twenty-two; "Pain Wingate," seventeen; Peter Green, twelve. For presidential electors Benjamin Bellows had twenty; Ebenezer Freeman, thirteen; Timothy Farrar, sixteen; Joseph Badger, fourteen, and John Pickering had ten. Only a small vote was cast considering the population of the town.

1789. At the annual meeting, March 19th, the vote for president (of the State) fifty, was cast unanimously for John Sullivan.

Abner Stone was chosen Representative.

Voted "that the Selectmen petition the General Court to have one penny laid on every acre of land in said town to be converted to making and repairing highways." In accordance with this vote, the selectmen presented the following petition:

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in General Court to be assembled at Concord, the third day of June Curent.

The Petition of the Town of Fitzwilliam Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioners being Chosen by said Town for the purpose to Present to your Honours and to Request that your Honours Would take into your

Wise Consideration and Grant Some Relief. We your Petitioners Humbly Shew the Situation we are in, and the Difficulty we labor under on account of our Roads, as we are situated in a Rough Part of the State, and have the Great Road which leads to the upper part of the State to take care of, which is eleven Miles in Length in said Town ; Which is a Large Road and much Improved (supposed to mean, used) and We are liable to fines, if it is not kept in Good Repair, and the Town, of late, have widened the Great Road though s^d Town and have cut off a Great Number of Crooks or Turns in s^d Road, to make it more Comodious to the Public : Which makes considerable Cost and Charge to s^d Town ; and there is a number of other Road for the benefit of s^d Town which are New and uncultivated, all which are to be attended unto, and your petitioners humbly Shew that there is a Considerable Quantity of unimproved Lands in said Town owned by Nonresidents which are not obliged to Doe any thing toward making or repairing said Roads some of Which leads through part of said Lands which must Increase the value thereof, if kept in good Repair, and your Petitioners Humbly Beg that there may be a tax of one Penney, Layed on each acre throughout s^d Town except Public Lands for the term of three years and to be layed out for the Repairing said Roads. And your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall ever Pray ,

Abner Stone	} Selectmen for Fitzwilliam.
John Fassett	
Stephen Brigham	

Fitz William,
May 27, 1789.

The Legislature granted this petition, and at a town meeting, held on September 7th following, Captain Stephen Brigham was chosen to collect the tax for the first year. Captain Brigham did not accept the office and Simon Crosby was appointed to take his place. It is understood that Mr. Crosby collected the tax for the three years it was levied.

1790. The town allowed " 2 pounds and 8 shillings for the purpose of getting Rev. Mr. Brigham a Cushing" for the pulpit.

1791. August 8th. The town " chose Nahum Parker to represent them at Concord at a Convention appointed there by an act of the General Court."

" Sold old Mr. Camp to Lieut. Byam and to give two shillings and ten pence per week for Keeping him with the Benfit of one Cow." " Sold Thankful Camp to Joseph Stone to have 3s. 10d. per week with the use of one bed."

In this manner the paupers were provided for from year to year ; and in the votes of the town upon this matter very particular provisions were made for keeping them properly clothed and to " pay for any Extrodenery Doctring and Nurising."

1792. August 27th. The town cast all the votes given, thirty-seven in number, against a proposed amendment of the Constitution of the State.

1793. In this year the first record was made of licenses " to keep a Public tavern" and " to sell Speritus Liquors." The innkeepers licensed in February and March of this year were Sylvanus Reed, Abner Stone, and Abijah Warner, while Simon Crosby, Thomas Gouldsmith, and Joseph Fox were authorized to deal in " Speritus Liquors." And Jonas Robinson of the north village received a similar license " to sell Speritus Liquors, subject to such regulations and restrictions as the law of the State of New Hampshire imposes upon retailers."

Just previous to 1793 the Legislature had passed laws, making material changes in the manner of doing town business and keeping town records, and in the duties and requirements of town officers generally. There are no regular town valuation and tax-lists in existence of an earlier date than 1793, but from this time onward the series is complete. At this time the selectmen began to keep a more formal record of their business transactions, and the records of the town clerk take a wider range.

It is not practicable to furnish from the town records anything like an accurate list of the successive owners, or even occupants of the various lots and pieces of land in town. Commencing with 1793 the yearly valuation and tax-lists state the *amount* for which real estate is assessed to each individual owner, but do not give the *location* of the land except in the case of non-resident owners. Among the old records of the town, two books are found that give a more complete account of the location of the various owners of real estate in the town than can be obtained from any other source. One of these books gives " A List of all the Houses (above the value of

One Hundred Dollars) with the Out-Houses appurtenant thereto, and the Lots on which the same are erected, not exceeding Two Acres" in the town "on the 1st day Oct. 1798." The particulars given are : the owner of the house ; the occupant thereof ; the number of houses and out-houses ; quantity of land in the lot ; the situation of the house ; its dimensions ; number of stories ; number and size of the windows ; material of which the buildings were constructed, and the valuation by the assistant assessor of the property as described. The situation of the houses is not described by lot and range, but by stating in what part of the town, or how far from the meeting-house, or in other similar ways. The house of Nahum Parker was "On the great road to Boston, east part of the town." Phinehas Reed lived "in the center of business on the main road." Thomas Stratton's house was situated "in the south part of the town, west of the pond." The houses of Samuel Griffin and Jonas Knight were in the "North part of the Town on a Handsome Hill nigh the School House." John Pratt's house was in the "S. East Part of the town : not on any road nor ever will be." William Farrar lived in the "North part of y^e Town, 3 Miles from the Center ; head of Hemlock Roe." Samuel Rockwood was located "N from the center ; west side of Fosters Pond." This is now called Rockwood Pond.

The other book gives "A List of all the Dwelling Houses not above the value of 100\$, and of all the Lands in the Town of Fitzwilliam and their owners on the first Day of Oct. 1798." The particulars given are names of owners ; number of acres owned ; description of lands ; adjunct proprietors ; location of land by lot and range ; number and dimension of buildings ; valuation of houses not over one hundred dollars, and valuation of the land.

The assistant assessor was Simon Crosby, and both books appear to have been made out by him, though his signature is attached only to the one first described.

The following tables have been carefully compiled from these two books with a few items added from other reliable sources. While not entirely free from errors, the books may

be accepted as substantially accurate. The first table gives a list of all residents owning land *or* buildings and non-residents owning land *and* buildings. Non-residents are marked †. The houses that are described as two stories high have their valuation marked ‡; all the other houses are one story high. All the houses are constructed of wood. The second table gives a list of non-residents owning *land only*. Nearly all the land in this table is described as unimproved. A cipher (0) inserted in an otherwise blank space means *none*. The mark ? inserted in a blank space signifies that the correct figures cannot be given. If inserted after figures, it implies doubt or uncertainty.

TABLE I.

<div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div></div> </div>	Total No. of acres owned.	Lot on which house is located.	Valuation of house.	Other land owned.
†Arunah Allen..... } Richard Gleason occ.. }	100	L 8 in R 4	\$150.	
Philip Amadon.....	121	L 10 in R 4	60.	4 in 4
Benj. Angier	15	7 in 11	70.	
Silas Angier jr.....	110	11 & 12 in 6 & 12 in 5 ?	70.	
Abel Baker	180	12 in 12	200.	18 in 11
Samuel Bent.....	90	7 in 1	?	
Daniel Bigelow.....	18	4 in 6	10.	
Joseph Bigelow.....	100	5 in 11	125.	
Widow Wm Bishop....	40	18 in 12	80.	
†Oliver Blood	150	1 in 5 (?)	80.	1 in 6 (?)
Bartlet Bowker.....	180	19 in 7	200.	18 in 7 & 16 in 11
Charles Bowker.....	100 ?	17 in 6	400. ‡	
John Bowker.....	165	19 in 7	200.	20 in 7 & 16 in 11
Asa Brewer.....	100	22 in 10	60.	
James Brewer.....	120	22 & 23 in 8 ?	40.	
Rev Benj. Brigham....	140	13 in 7	400. ‡	11 & 12 in 7
		13 in 6	100.	
Levi Brigham	132	6 in 6	85.	3 in 5 & 5 in 6
William Bruce.....	100	20 in 10 & 11 ?	40.	
Abel Byam	62	5 in 9	70.	
Duncan Cameron	40	23 in 9	20.	
Jonathan Capron	38	21 in 8	50.	
Thomas Clark	27	18 in 12	?	

TABLE I. (Continued.)

NAMES OF OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS.	Total No. of acres owned.	Lot on which house is located.	Valuation of house.	Other land owned.
John Cobleigh.....	160	13 in 12	80.	14 in 11
Ezekiel Collins	170	11 in 6	70.	12 in 5 & 6
William Crane.	109	9 in 2	40.	?
Simon Crosby	163	15 in 6	600. †	2 & 14 in 5 & 150. † 15 in 4 105.
Ebenezer Cutler	100	4 in 6 & 7 ?	10.	
Jonathan Cutler	48	4 in 6	15.	
Moses Cutting.....	100	22 in 9	125.	
Oliver Damon	130	13 in 9	200.	14 in 9
Samuel Davis.....	100	19 in 5	80.	
Benjamin Davison	184	15 in 5	300.	14 in 4 & 13 in 3
Pearley Deeth.....	100	8 in 10	175.	
Moses Drury	55	18 in 6	65.	
Abraham Eddy.....	36	2 in 12	40.	3 in 12
Benjamin Eddy.....	202	2 in 12	60.	13 in 4 & 16 in 7
		17 in 8	40.	
Abel Estabrook.....	97	12 in 2'	110.	13 in 1
Daniel Farrar	200	21 in 8 & 9 ?	150.	18 in 6
Nathan Platts occ.....			110.	
William Farrar.....	100	22 in 6 & 23 in 7 ?	200.	
John Fassett.....	200	15 in 8	60.	5 in 4
Jedediah Fay.....	50	7 in 10	80.	
John Fay.....	120	14 in 8	80.	14 in 7
William Fay	50	9 in 10	40.	
Matthias Felton	173	15 in 6	700. †	14 in 3
		4 in 8	?	
Jesse Forristall.....	150	1 in 7	50.	
Joseph Forristall	147	19 in 8	80.	18 in 10
Luna Foster.....	83	13 & 14 in 12 ?	130.	
Richard Foster.....	50	8 in 3	0.	
Francis Fullam.....	282	13 in 2	200.	12 & 17 in 3 & 2 & 14 in 7
David & John Gary...	130	21 in 6 & 7	150. †	
Jonas Gary.....	137	7 in 10	60.	3 in 10 & 9 in 8
Richard Gleason.....	126	10 in 5	75.	8 & 11 in 5
John Godding.....	65	18 in 12	70.	
Timothy Godding.....	85	21 in 10	70.	
Asa Goodale	100	1 in 11	70.	
Isaac Goodenow.....	70	6 in 10	20.	
Thomas Goldsmith.....	33	15 in 6	500. †	15 in 4 & 7
Jesse Hayden occ.....	50	13 in 6	250.	
Allen Grant	100	7 in 12	1.	
Samuel Griffin.....	152	20 in 6	300.	21 in 5
Nath'l & Nath'l Grover jr	100	3 in 7	80.	

TABLE I. (*Continued.*)

NAMES OF OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS.	Total No. of acres owned.	† Lot on which house is located.	Valuation of house.	Other land owned.
Joshua Harrington.....	55	23 in 8	175.	23 in 9
Stephen Harris.....	150	11 in 8	180.	8 in 9
Asael Hartwell.....	150	12 in 8	120.	10 in 9
Abner & Jos. Haskell...	100	22 in 5	200.	
Joseph Haskell.....	20	15 in 5	70.	14 & 15 in 4
Levi Haskell.....	162	23 in 6	150.	9 in 3 & ?
Joel Hayden.....	75	10 in 6	80.	9 in 6
Sylvanus Hemenway...	130	18 in 8	80.	18 in 7
Daniel Howe.....	120	17 & 18 in 11	20.	
Nahum Howe.....	66	11 in 12	150.	
† James Hubbard.....	70	4 in 5	40.	
† Peter Hunt.....	71	3 in 2	71.	4 in 1
Isaac Jackson.....	90	19 & 20 in 10 ?	10.	
John Jackson.....	50	23 in 10	10.	
Bezaleel Kendall.....	50	3 in 3	10.	
Samuel Kendall.....	483	14 in 2	400.	14 & 15 in 1 & 15 & 19 in 2 & 13 & 14 in 3 & 16 in 4 & 12 in 11
John Knight.....	50	16 in 5	30.	
Jonas Knight.....	150	20 in 5	300.	21 in 5
† Stephen Knowlton.....	190	17 in 1 & 2 ?	70.	
Luke Lincoln.....	21	14 in 6	250.	13 in 4
John Locke.....	50	16 in 4	40.	
William Locke.....	100	11 in 2	?	
Eleazer Mason.....	100	17 in 12	125.	
Elihu Mellen.....	95	4 in 4 & 14 in 5	0.	
		16 in 9	150. †	
Joel Mellen.....	200	16 in 10	70.	
John Mellen's heirs....	44	14 in 5	?	
Daniel Mellen.....	100	17 in 7	200. †	16 in 7
Joel Miles.....	85	7 in 11	15.	
P. Gleason Miller.....	53	9 in 3	0.	
Daniel Morse.....	1 ?	15 in 6	120.	
James Morse.....	100	7 in 9	65.	
† Nehemiah Munroe...) Benj'n Sampson occ.. }	634	1 in 10	250.	2 & 3 in 10 & 1 & 2 in 9 & 1 & 3 in 8
Ebenezer Nurse.....	100	20 in 9 & 10 ?	80.	
Matthew Osborn.....	90	9 in 6	80.	10 in 5
Ephraim Parker.....	150	15 in 12	110.	
Nahum Parker.....	74	13 in 1	200.	14 in 1
Samuel Patch.....	100	14 in 10	120.	
Samuel Patrick.....	200	17 in 5	200.	15 in 10 (?)
Micah Perry.....	60	3 & 4 in 12 ?	40.	
Simeon Perry.....	100	6 in 10	40.	

TABLE I. (Continued.)

NAMES OF OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS.	Total No. of acres owned.	Lot on which house is located.	Valuation of house.	Other land owned.
Ebenezer Phillips.....	100	15 in 9	20.	
Elijah Phillips.....	40	5 in 7	110.	
Edward Platts.....	100	18 in 5	120.	
Ebenezer Potter.....	100	6 in 7	15.	
Job Pratt.....	55	6 in 1	60.	6 in 2
John Pratt*.....	1 ?	?	120.	
Joseph Pratt.....	156	12 in 1	200.	10 in 2 & 16 & 17 in 3
Levi & Silas Pratt.....	160	1 & 2 in 2 ?	75.	
Moses Pratt.....	200	6 & 7 in 2 ?	60.	6 in 3
Reuben Pratt.....	264	10 in 1	80.	11 & 13 in 1 & 10, 11 & 12 in 2 & 17 in 3
Hiram Prescott.....	130	5 in 10	40.	6 in 11
Peter Prescott.....	100	8 in 11	50.	
David Pushee.....	27	10 in 2	45.	
James Reed.....	266	16 in 9	60.	12 in 6
		12 & 13 in 7 ?	80.	
Hinds Reed occ.....		16 in 8	200.	
Phinehas Reed.....	99	15 in 5	800. †	15 in 4 & 6
David Rice.....	70	11 in 9	60.	
Abijah Richardson.....	150	6 in 8	200.	6 in 9
Rhoda Richardson....	150	3 & 4 in 11 ?	70.	
Timothy Richardson...	170	2 & 3 in 11 ?	50.	
Jonas Robeson.....	2	23 in 8	300.	
Walter Capron occ....			125.	
Samuel Rockwood.....	180	17 in 9	120.	17 & 18 in 10
†Ephraim Root..... }	209	14 in 7	120. †	23 in 11 & 12
Obil Fassett occ..... }				
Jacob Sargeant.....	100	1 in 12	175.	
David Saunders.....	87	23 in 5	120.	
Ebenezer Saunders....	50	19 in 11	40.	
Selectmen of Fitzwilliam	35	4 in 10	0.	
Barakiah Scott.....	166	16 in 3	80.	15 in 3
Benjamin Scott.....	25	15 in 3	40.	
Benoni Shurtleff.....	135	15 in 6	700. †	14 in 6 & 15 in 7
Calvin Smith.....	140	10 in 12	140.	9 in 12
Daniel Smith.....	120	13 in 11	5.	14 in 11
Peter Starkey.....	20	20 in 11 & 20	150.	
Otis Starkey occ.....		& 21 in 12 ?	150.	
William Starkey.....	200	21 in 11 & 19	160.	
		& 20 in 12 ?		
Abner Stone.....	100	9 in 1	300. †	

* Lot and range not given. Mr. Crosby's description is "S. east part of the town not on any road, nor ever will be."

TABLE I. (Continued.)

NAMES OF OWNERS AND OCCUPANTS.	Total No. of acres owned.	Lot on which house is located.	Valuation of house.	Other land owned.
Hezekiah Stone.....	180	9 in 4	75.	9 in 5
James Stone.....	68	8 in 6	15.	
Jason & Samuel Stone..	100	18 in 4	50.	
Joseph Stone.....	100	7 in 7	80.	6 in 7 & 9 in 8
Samuel Stone.....	152	13 in 6	200.	13 in 5
Abijah Stowell.....	80	20 in 4	60.	
Thomas Stratton.....	125	5 in 8	200.	4 in 8
† Swan* ...	1 ?	?	300.	
Nathan Wheeler occ }				
John Sweetland	78	22 in 11 & 12 ?	60.	
John Sweetland	50	23 in 10	10.	one is jr.
→ Michael Sweetser.....	65	4 in 10	125.	
James Taylor.....	70	4 in 1	5.	
Thomas Tolman.....	62	23 in 9	300. †	22 in 10
Samuel Tower.....	303	13 in 8	180.	9 in 9 & 13 in 6 & 10
Jacob Townsend.....	75	10 in 10	45.	
Nathan Townsend.....	140	10 in 8	175.	10 in 7
Nathan Townsend Jr....	30	11 in 10	0.	
Reuben Underwood....	60	5 in 9	?	
Asa Waite.....	100	3 in 6	60.	
Robert Ware.....	65	14 in 1	40.	
Abijah Warner.....	190	5 in 1	300. †	6 in 1 & 5 in 2
Nathaniel Warner.....	50	4 in 2	0.	
Silas Warner.....	100	2 in 3	10.	
Silas Wheeler.....	80	16 in 12	40.	
Francis Whitcomb.....	76	2 & 3 in 8 ?	30.	
Oliver Whitcomb.....	66	10 & 11 in 12 ?	?	
Stephen White.....	50	13 in 12	60.	
† Isaac Whitmore.....	100	3 in 1 & 2 ?	60.	
Joel Whitney.....	100	6 in 12	40.	
John & Jona. Whitney..	200	20 in 8 & 19 in 9 ?	350. †	
John Whittemore.....	16	13 in 6	15.	
Artemas Wilson	160	7 in 8	120.	6 in 8 & 4 in 9
Nathaniel Wilson.....	154	3 & 4 in 9 ?	200.	
			40.	
Caleb Winch.....	220	22 in 6	180.	22 in 7 & 23 in 5 & 6
Joseph Winch.....	77	21 in 6	80.	23 in 5
Mathew Withington...	100	17 in 4	?	11 in 4
Jonas Woods.....	97	13 in 7	120.	
Aaron Wright.....	190	18 in 9	225.	18 in 10
Ebenezer Wright.....	140	16 in 6	180.	10 in 5
Joel Wright.....	80	15 in 11	60.	

* Lot and range not given. Mr. Crosby's description is "on the north end of the town on the great road."

TABLE II.

OWNERS.	Acres owned.	Location of land.
Col. Atkinson	100	14 in 10
Stephen Bailey	100	2 in 5 & 6
Ja ^s Bellows	150	4 & 5 in 3
Jo ^s Bigelow	64	2 in 1
David Brigham	50	?
Nath ^l Brooks	100	11 in 11
James Bowdoin	100	8 in 12
Dr. John Chamberlain	200	10 & 11 in 3
John Clapp	50	2 in 6
Colton	30	15 in 1
John Crosby	100	1 in 4
Isaac Davis	100	7 in 4
Ebenezer Fry	40	2 in 11
James Goddard	49	2 & 3 in 12
Daniel Golding	50	?
Josiah Hartwell	100	12 & 13 in 9
Howe	100	9 in 11
Asa Huntington	100	12 in 3
George Jaffrey	70	6 in 11
Peter Joslin	100	1 in 1
Heirs of Geo. Libbey	100	10 in 11
Esq. Phillips	80	23 in 4
Levi Randall	40	19 in 11
Eliphalet Richardson	15	2 in 11
Jona. Rice	100	3 in 4
Col. Stoddard	100	12 in 11
Sampson Stoddard Jr.	100	8 in 5
Luther Stone	100	2 in 4
Phillips Sweetser	70	14 in 12
Jonas Thompson	50	2 in 8
Col. Wallingford	100	5 in 5
Town of Westborough	80	3 & 4 in 5
Ephraim Whitney	100	5 in 12
Salmon Whitney	80	17 in 3
William Whitney	50	14 in 7
Benj. Wilson's heirs	30	4 in 9
William Worcester	200	21 & 22 in 4

In the preceding tables and elsewhere in this book, so many locations are described by giving the number of lot and range, that for convenience of reference, the lot and range lines are shown on the accompanying map of the town. It was stated in the fourth chapter that there is considerable variation in

the size of the lots. It would be impracticable to show these variations with exactness without making a correct survey of the entire town, but the lines in the map are given with sufficient accuracy to answer the purpose intended. The minutes of the perambulation of the line between Troy and Fitzwilliam, November 8th, 1847, are here given to illustrate the irregularity referred to. Beginning at the northwest corner of Fitzwilliam, being the southwest corner of Troy, the courses and distances were as follows :

	Course.	Distances as measured.	The distances properly should be.
1	S 81° 26' E	375 Rods.	320 Rods.
2	N 3° W	85 "	100 "
3	S 81° 30' E	167 "	160 "
4	N	147 "	100 "
5	S 79° 52' E	344 "	320 "
6	N 2° 6' E	218 "	200 "
7	S 80° E.	589 "	about 560 "

to the west line of Jaffrey.

The three northerly courses should agree in direction ; it will be seen that they vary over five degrees, and in like manner the four easterly courses vary over a degree and a half ; while a comparison of the two columns of distances will show the variation in that direction.

The dividing line between Fitzwilliam and Rindge as given in the charters of both towns is "north by the needle five miles" (sixteen hundred rods), but the line as held by the adjoining landholders in the two towns varied considerably from a straight line. The Legislature of 1847 legalized the local line as giving more substantial justice than would be obtained by straightening the line. The line as established is described thus : Beginning at the southeast corner of Fitzwilliam, being the southwest corner of Rindge thence, (1) N. 1° 27' E. $117\frac{9}{10}$ rods ; (2) N. 3° E. $30\frac{35}{100}$ rods ; (3) N. 3° 20' E. $149\frac{4}{10}$ rods ; (4) N. 2° 28' E. $356\frac{3}{10}$ rods ; (5) N. 4° E. $13\frac{3}{10}$ rods ; (6) N. 4° 5' E. $163\frac{5}{10}$ rods ; (7) N. 2° E. $117\frac{15}{100}$ rods ; (8) N. 0° 30'

BOUNDARY BETWEEN FITZWILLIAM AND RINDGE. 187

W. $91\frac{3}{10}$ rods ; (9) N. $0^{\circ} 36'$ E. $109\frac{35}{100}$ rods ; (10) N. $1^{\circ} 54'$ E. $58\frac{7}{10}$ rods ; (11) N. 1° W. $96\frac{4}{10}$ rods ; (12) N. $0^{\circ} 15'$ W. $89\frac{5}{10}$ rods ; (13) N. 1° E. $90\frac{75}{100}$ rods ; (14) N. $0^{\circ} 5'$ E. $106\frac{4}{10}$ rods ; (15) N. $45\frac{4}{10}$ rods ; (16) N. $0^{\circ} 12'$ E. $106\frac{3}{10}$ rods to the south line of Jaffrey. Total length of line $1732\frac{3}{10}$ rods.

CHAPTER IX.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY FROM 1800 ONWARD.

Rev. Stephen Williams Pastorate—Mr. John Sabin called—His Ordination—Location and Erection of a New Meeting-House—Divisions Among the People—Organization of the Unitarian Society—Its Ministers and History—The Orthodox Society Formed—Its Pastors and their Families—The Parsonages—The Centennial Anniversary—The Baptist Church and Society—Its Meeting-House and Ministers—The Methodist Episcopal Houses of Worship and Ministers.

AFTER the death of the first pastor, and before the close of the year 1799, Mr. Timothy Williams, of Woodstock, Conn., supplied the pulpit for some months and delivered here a funeral oration at the solemn service which was observed throughout the country, when the people mourned for George Washington. The death of Washington took place December 14th, 1799. The corpse appears to have been deposited in the family vault with funeral solemnities, four days after his death, or December 18th, but the day set apart by Congress for the general service was February 22d, 1800. The oration of Mr. Williams was doubtless delivered at the time of the general observance.

From "an Account of Money Expended for preaching" from December 31st, 1799, to February 1st, 1801 (which includes expenses "for board of Candidates"), it would appear that Mr. Timothy Williams preached fourteen Sabbaths, at six dollars per Sabbath, his board bill being paid by the town. He or some one else was paid "\$1.50 for Fast."

A Mr. Marcy preached two Sabbaths and may have been a candidate for settlement, while Mr. Timothy Williams was probably only a supply.

An elder brother of this Mr. Williams, viz., Mr. Stephen Williams, also from Woodstock, Conn., appears to have preached here as a candidate for settlement, early in the year 1800, and on June 25th of that year the church extended a

call to him to become their pastor, and officially notified the town of its action, and requested its concurrence. The town voted to comply with this request, and offered Mr. Williams a settlement of three hundred and thirty-four dollars and an annual salary of three hundred dollars, without the use of the ministerial lot. But it would seem that unfavorable reports respecting the character or habits of the candidate began to be circulated about that time, for the town took the precaution to vote that if Mr. Williams should become their pastor upon the terms proposed, and within six years should be dismissed because of charges affecting his morals, he should bind himself to restore to the town three fourths of the amount of his settlement, or two hundred and fifty dollars and fifty cents, and a less proportion, or one half of the same, if, for the same reason, his ministry should close in twelve years, and one fourth of the same, if within eighteen years. These conditions proving unsatisfactory, a compromise was made by Mr. Williams' relinquishing his settlement of three hundred and thirty-four dollars, and the town adding one hundred dollars to the amount of his stipulated salary, making it four hundred dollars annually.

The ordination of Mr. Williams took place November 4th, 1800, and the following churches were represented in the ordaining council by pastors or delegates, or by both, viz., the churches of Royalston, Longmeadow, and Athol, Mass., of Woodstock in Connecticut, and of Rindge, Keene, Jaffrey, and Marlborough, N. H. The record of the result of the council contains the following :

In the examination, particular attention was paid to the moral character of the Candidate, and we are happy to find Mr. Williams possessed of an unusually amiable moral character, continued from his early youth to the present time, and which we consider not in the least blemished by some injurious reports which Mr. Williams himself candidly came forward and informed the Council of ; but which upon full, satisfying evidence appear to have been originated and industriously propagated with a wicked, malicious design to injure Mr. Williams, and to disturb the happy unanimity of this people.

The vote to proceed to the ordination was unanimous, and in that service Rev. Mr. Ainsworth, of Jaffrey, offered the

introductory prayer, Rev. Richard S. Storrs, of Longmeadow (grandfather of Rev. Dr. Storrs, of Brooklyn, N. Y.), preached the sermon, Rev. Mr. Hall, of Keene, offered the ordaining prayer, Rev. Mr. Lee, of Royalston (who had been moderator of the church from the death of its first pastor), gave the charge, Rev. Seth Payson, of Rindge (father of Dr. Edward Payson, who was a distinguished pastor in Portland, Me.), gave the right hand of fellowship, and the concluding prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Fish, of Marlborough.

The town voted fifty-five dollars to meet the expenses of the ordination.

Mr. Williams is represented to have been a man of education, of sound doctrinal belief, according to the standards of the times, and a fluent, pleasing speaker; but, unhappily, he was very penurious, and so fond of intoxicating drinks that he would drink to excess when others stood ready to pay the bill.* These habits soon produced disaffection, and in less than two years the church, the town, and Mr. Williams himself, united in calling a council for his dismissal, all parties, it would seem, proposing to ask for this, without setting forth the reasons for this request.

The council, which met September 28th, 1802, declined to comply with the wishes of the parties calling it, unless the reasons for the dismissal should be presented, and advised the calling of another council, to which the whole matter should be submitted. This was agreed to, and the church named the third Tuesday of November, 1802, as the day for the meeting of the second or new council. The records of the church from August 20th, 1802, to August 17th, 1804, are entirely blank. The committee of the church for the calling of this council consisted of Deacons Fassett and Da non, and Esquire Parker.

The town records supply the following information: For some reasons, probably the occurrence of the annual Thanks-

* "Mr. Williams was carried (drunk) from Goldsmith's (Tavern) to Mr. Felton's. Mrs. Deeth said we old women sat in the bodyseats and cried and felt very indignant at Dr. Wright for laughing, and enquired what he was laughing at? he replied to think how soon you would have it all to do over again." At Mr. Williams' public confession-Related by Mrs. John Sabin.

giving, the council did not assemble till November 19th, 1802, at which time Mr. Williams was dismissed (doubtless without the usual or any credentials), and the town voted on the same day its "thanks"

to the venerable ecclesiastical Council now in session in this town, for their patience, candor, and impartial attention to the business laid before them, and for the result they have reached; and that the town accept with gratitude the proposal of the Hon. Gentlemen of the Clergy belonging to the Council to supply the desk in this town a certain time.*

Apparently this was a happy termination of a most serious difficulty, but, as is often true when pastors are dismissed, some of the people, who were the special friends of Mr. Williams, were aggrieved, and not ready to welcome his successor.

It is supposed that a number of candidates for settlement were heard, after the dismissal of Mr. Williams, before the people generally were satisfied, but August 20th, 1804, the church called Mr. John Sabin, of Pomfret, Conn., to the pastorate by twenty-nine votes in the affirmative and twenty-one in the negative; the opposition, it is understood, coming chiefly from the warm personal friends of the late pastor, Mr. Williams. The town concurring in the call, and offering Mr. Sabin one hundred and fifty dollars as a settlement, and an annual salary of three hundred and fifty dollars, and he accepting the call, a council was selected for his ordination, to take place January 8th, 1805. The following churches were represented: Templeton, Royalston, and Winchendon, Mass., and Rindge, Jaffrey, and Marlborough in this State.

Rev. Ebenezer Sparhawk, of Templeton, was chosen moderator, and Rev. Seth Payson, of Rindge, scribe.

Before the council assembled, a protest against his acceptance of the call, and ordination as pastor, was presented to Mr. Sabin, signed by twenty-one male members of the church.

This document, which has been preserved, bears evidence of

* Stephen and Timothy Williams were the sons of Rev. Stephen Williams, pastor at Woodstock, Conn., and grandsons of Rev. Stephen Williams, D.D., of Longmeadow, Mass. In a sketch of the Woodstock pastor, published in 1861, this is said of his sons: Stephen was ordained pastor at Fitzwilliam, N. H., but became deranged soon. Timothy was licensed but never ordained. If the temperance reformation had come earlier, the elder brother's malady might have been prevented.

having been drawn up by Mr. Thomas Stratton, one of the protestants, and is a plain, temperate, and respectful appeal.

Upon the opening of the council a protest against the ordination and installation of the candidate, signed, we are told, "by a large number of the church, and some of the inhabitants of the town," was presented, while other testimony was offered, all of which, we are assured by the record, was patiently attended to and examined. The result arrived at was that the interests of religion, the peace of the town, and the usefulness of Mr. Sabin would not be promoted by his settlement.

The formal result of council is found in full upon the records of the town and of the church. It was very carefully drawn, and the spirit of it is good in the main, but it took strong ground against proceeding to the ordination of Mr. Sabin, partly because of the want of harmony in the church and town respecting him, and partly because the candidate had, it was thought, as charged by those opposed to him, given occasion for dissatisfaction by being somewhat non-committal in his probationary preaching, touching some of the generally received doctrines of religion.

Eight days later a request for a church meeting, to consider and act upon this result, was signed by thirty male members of the church, and at a meeting of the church, February 14th, 1805, the call given to Mr. Sabin was declared to remain good, and provision was made for another council, while a long and particular answer to the action of the former council was adopted. This reply was sharp, as such replies usually are, but it did little or nothing toward silencing the opposition.

The town joined in calling a second council, and in it the following churches were represented : viz., Lancaster, Leominster, Gardner, Gerry (now Phillipston), Barre, New Braintree, and Petersham in Massachusetts, and from New Hampshire the single church of Peterborough. This council assembled March 5th, 1805. Rev. Mr. Gardner, of Leominster, was moderator, and Rev. Mr. Fiske, of New Braintree, was scribe. All the proceedings of the former council were carefully considered by this, as well as a new and very carefully prepared protest of twenty-one members of the church,

and some others, when a committee of the council was raised to confer with both parties and bring about a reconciliation, if possible. The interview was long, and conducted on all sides in a friendly spirit. Some of the objections to proceeding with the ordination were doubtless removed, for the final vote of the council was unanimous. Mr. Sabin was ordained as a Gospel minister and installed as pastor in Fitzwilliam, March 6th, 1805.

The introductory prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Fiske, of New Braintree ; Rev. Nathaniel Thayer, of Lancaster, preached the sermon ; the consecrating and installing prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. Osgood, of Gardner ; the charge to the pastor was by Rev. Mr. Gardner, of Leominster ; the right hand of fellowship was by Rev. Mr. Dunbar, of Peterborough, and the concluding prayer was by Rev. Mr. Bascom, of Gerry (now Phillipston). It will be noticed that there was no formal address to the people in the early installations of pastors in Southern New Hampshire.

The circumstances of Mr. Sabin's settlement, as a matter of course, affected unpleasantly his relations to the neighboring pastors for a season, but in the course of two or three years they freely exchanged pulpits with him, and always deemed him a conscientious and faithful Gospel minister. As they became acquainted with him they found him to be thoroughly sound in doctrine, though somewhat original in the manner of expressing his belief, and in time came to regard him as a wise and safe counsellor. His own good sense, urbanity, and devotion to his work did much toward the establishment of a good name in this region, while the noble traits of Mrs. Sabin's character and her clear views upon all subjects of general interest made a most favorable impression upon the public generally.

Rev. John Sabin was born in Pomfret, Conn., April 17th, 1770, or nearly one year before the church in Fitzwilliam was organized. He graduated from Brown University in 1797, at the age of twenty-seven years, and was nearly thirty-five years old at the time of his ordination. He was admitted to the church in Fitzwilliam, July 14th, 1805, on letter from the

North Church in Salem, Mass. He studied theology in that place, probably under the direction of the pastor of the North Church. He died in Fitzwilliam, October 14th, 1845, at the age of seventy-five years and six months, and in the forty-first year of his ministry. Governor Bullock, in his Centennial address in Royalston, said :

If each generation of men in New England could have forty such men as Lee in Royalston, Estabrook in Athol, and Sabin in Fitzwilliam, the towns and churches would live in perpetual peace.

The pastorate of Mr. Sabin here covered a very important, and, at times, exceedingly exciting period of this town's history. The meeting-house was too small, and, in most other respects, poorly fitted for the convenience and comfort of his congregation. As early as 1796 the matter of erecting a new church edifice was brought before the town, but the project was voted down, and though it was called up again and again in the succeeding years, for a long time it met with the same result. At times it seemed almost certain that something would be done, for in September of 1803, Thomas Stratton was paid three dollars and thirty-three cents for assisting to draft a plan for the meeting-house. The location of a new meeting-house, as is often the case, was found to be a difficult point to settle. Various places were proposed, each of which had its own points of advantage. The localities which received the most consideration were, the old place near the cemetery, the spot where the Town Hall now stands, and a lot owned by John Whittemore, which, from the description thereof, must have been near, or identical with, the place where Daniel H. Reed now lives. In a short time all the other localities were given up, and the question was between the two places first mentioned.

The dispute upon this point was warm and protracted. The people in the north part of the town were agitating the question of a new and separate township to be organized out of the south part of Marlborough, the north part of Fitzwilliam, and portions of Swanzey and Richmond, and were already adopting measures for the erection of a new church edifice where

the village of Troy now stands. The assent of Fitzwilliam to the formation of the new town, which it was desirable to obtain, and the location of the new meeting-house, were at length effected by a compromise, for those who were in favor of locating the meeting-house where the Town Hall now stands, and the inhabitants of the north end of the town, uniting their forces at the polls, carried both measures by a large majority. But this action disaffected a large and influential party that stood aloof from the enterprise of erecting the new house of worship.

But in the summer of 1816 a new and commodious meeting-house was erected where the Town Hall now stands, at an expense of about seven thousand dollars, which was a large sum for the people to raise at that time for such a purpose. The town voted four hundred dollars toward this object, which appears to have been all it ever paid for that house, in its corporate capacity.*

On March 12th, 1816, the town voted to exempt those persons belonging to the Baptist Society, who signed protest given to the Selectmen, from paying their tax of the 400 dollars, granted for the Meeting Hous.

We have no means for determining what disposal was made of the pews in this house of worship, but it is clear that there was a debt upon it, which, a year later, amounted to two thousand dollars or more. This church, which was in every way a noble structure, like churches built about the same time in Athol, Templeton, and Petersham, in Massachusetts, was dedicated November 6th, 1816. The probability is that the pastor, Rev. Mr. Sabin, preached the sermon on that occasion, but as his sermons were burned by his direction, this matter cannot be determined with certainty.

The church had been occupied for worship nine, or, at most, ten Sabbaths, when, during a thunder-storm, on the night of January 17th, 1817, it was struck by lightning, fired and totally consumed. Nothing of importance seems to have been

* When this meeting-house was about to be raised, Mr. Windsor Fay, of Boston, a native of Fitzwilliam, wishing to help forward the enterprise, sent up as his contribution a barrel of New England rum and fifty pounds of loaf sugar.

saved, except the pulpit Bible, which Mr. Jonas Robeson removed while the flames were bursting forth from the doors and windows. The congregation was obliged to return to the old meeting-house for worship. The loss to the people was great, but it served the good purpose of uniting them as they had not been united for many years ; and even before the fire had gone out, the matter of rebuilding had been entered upon in earnest. During the same year the house now standing was erected. It occupies the same spot at the former house, though there were slight changes in the foundations. This church cost about six thousand dollars. About one thousand dollars of this came from sympathizing friends living in other places, while the remaining five thousand dollars were raised by the sale of the pews, which sold for about seven thousand dollars, or enough to pay for the new house and liquidate the debt that remained upon the one that was burned. "These things," said Rev. Mr. Sabin, in one of his lectures, "may give a little idea of the strength of a united, willing people, for they were built in the two unproductive years, 1816 and 1817, cold seasons, snow or frost every month in the year, and yet the people did not suffer but got along comfortably."

The corner-stone of this new church (the northwest corner) was laid May 28th, 1817, and in it is a cavity containing a plate with an inscription. This inscription is in Latin, and was written by Rev. Mr. Sabin. The half sheet of paper upon which he prepared it has been preserved and is a curiosity. The sentence is written out nine times with more or less variation. The ninth effort seems to have been satisfactory.

It reads : "*Haec fundamenta Aedis Sacrae pro conventu Ecclesiae Congregationalis agi incipiuntur Die Maii 28. Anno Domini Christi 1817.*" And translated is : "These foundations of a sacred house for the meeting of the Congregational Church began to be laid on the 28th day of May, in the year of our Lord Christ 1817."

Mr. Sabin counted and set down upon the paper the ninety-nine letters of this inscription, which leads to the belief that it was the one of the nine which was finally adopted, engraved, and placed in the corner-stone.

This edifice, which is an ornament to the town, was dedicated November 26th, 1817, one year and twenty days after the dedication of its predecessor. Of the two houses, the one now standing is said to be a little longer than the other. The town appropriated fifteen hundred dollars toward the building of the latter house, but the appropriation was not probably used, as the amount received from the sale of the pews was sufficient to pay for the new house and to cancel the debt of two thousand dollars upon the edifice that was burned.

In 1815, Troy, having been incorporated as a separate town, twelve or thirteen of the members of this church were dismissed to aid in the formation of the Congregational Church in that place.

The church in Fitzwilliam seems to have increased and prospered under the ministry of Mr. Sabin till about the year 1827, when dissensions of considerable importance arose. Certain differences in doctrinal belief were the ground of these, and they led, as is well known, to a division among the supporters of religious institutions here, and the organization of a new ecclesiastical society, which was called "The Orthodox Society in Fitzwilliam." The pastor, with the church organization and records, went with the new society.

Upon the merits of that unhappy controversy, which many now living remember, the historian of the town will not be expected to dwell. Time has done much to heal the wounds then made, and the people of but few towns in New England will be found more harmonious in their business and social relations.

* For a better understanding, however, of the religious condition of the town for twenty years after 1827, it may be deemed important to state that a portion of the people claimed that the pastor was too exclusive in regard to making ministerial exchanges, that the council that ordained him was one of liberal sentiments, that the church was established, and had always been maintained, upon a liberal covenant,[†] and that the

* The facts that follow respecting the Unitarian Society have been kindly furnished by Miss Viola L. Spaulding.

† A copy of this "Covenant" will be found in Chapter VI. of this volume, page 93.

majority of the people had always been opposed to what was called at that day rigid Calvinism.

At a town meeting during the winter of 1827-28 these matters were freely discussed, but the subject of the exchanges of the pastor with other clergymen (which, it had been supposed, was settled at that meeting in favor of a greater liberality) still divided the people, and rendered fruitless all efforts at reconciliation.

On January 12th, 1831, a meeting was held by the friends of liberal Christianity to consult on the common good, and an association was formed of which the following persons were members: Elijah Bowker, Asa Brewer, Joseph Fawsett, second, John Fay, Benjamin Fay, Nahum Parker, Jr., Samuel Felch, Robinson Perkins, Daniel Spaulding, John Foster, Ephraim Parker, Charles Howe, Jabez Stearns, Daniel Mellen, Sumner Keith, Edward Holman, Sylvanus Holman, Joseph Brigham, Jubal E. Allen, Obil Fassett, Solomon Alexander, John J. Allen, Phineas Reed, Josiah Ingalls, Moses Stockwell, Peletiah M. Everett, Samuel Knight, Josiah Carter, John Whitcomb, Jacob Felton.

Hon. Nahum Parker presided at the meeting, and measures were taken to obtain the use of the meeting-house a proportion of the time, if the pastor would not exchange with Unitarian ministers. A committee, consisting of Phineas Reed, Hon. Nahum Parker, and Robinson Perkins, was raised to wait upon Rev. Mr. Sabin and learn his decision, but he was unwilling to give the pledge that was asked.

At the annual town meeting in March, 1831, the question, By whom shall the meeting-house be occupied? was discussed, and decided in favor of those who sustained the course of the pastor, but this vote was set aside at another meeting a few days later, and the following was adopted:

That the Selectmen of this town, for the present year, be requested to assign to the Liberal party (so-called) the use of the Meeting House eight Sundays and the Baptists two Sundays, at such times as the Selectmen shall judge proper.

Accordingly they appointed the last Sabbaths in April, May, July, August, October, November, December, and January

for the liberal party, and the last Sabbath in September and the first Sabbath in January for the Baptists.

Soon after this, at an adjourned meeting of those who felt aggrieved at the course of Mr. Sabin and his friends, a paper drawn up by Phineas Reed, John J. Allen, Josiah Carter, and Josiah Ingalls, committee, appears to have been adopted, in which the pastor's amiable qualities, kind offices, and sympathies with the people are set forth, as well as the hold he had gained upon the affections of the congregation in general, while at the same time those who constituted the majority of the church were censured for the course they had pursued in withdrawing fellowship* from their former associates in the church.

In such an excitement many things are often said and done, even by the wisest, that leave room for regret, and nearly sixty years ago this may have been the case with some of the good people of Fitzwilliam.

First Congregational (Unitarian) Society.

Of the events affecting this since the division, the following summary may be given :

Rev. Seth Winslow occupied the pulpit during a large part of the year 1833, and Rev. J. K. Waite during 1834 and 1835, except nine Sabbaths, when it was occupied by Mr. Robert F. Wallcut, to whom the people gave a call to become their pastor. Mr. Wallcut was installed in December, 1835.

In 1834 it was deemed "necessary for the comfort of the inhabitants of Fitzwilliam, who usually assemble in their town meeting-house for public worship, that there should be a stove in said house to warm it in cold weather." Accordingly a stove was procured and placed in the house, it being understood that the ownership thereof should remain with the persons who paid for it.

At a meeting of the members of the First Congregational (Unitarian) Society in Fitzwilliam, March 17th, 1837, for a more complete organization, it was voted to choose a committee of three to prepare a constitution and by-laws for said soci-

* From the Church Records it appears that the first vote of the church withdrawing fellowship from certain of its disaffected members, was passed in July, 1832.

ety, and Amos A. Parker, Esq., John J. Allen, Esq., and Josiah Ingalls, Esq., were chosen.

Rev. Mr. Farmer preached eight months in 1837, and Rev. Ezekiel L. Bascom from July, 1838, till October, 1839, when he was obliged to go South for his health. He returned in the spring of 1840, and continued his ministry till a short time before his death, which occurred April 2d, 1841. In 1841 Mr. Bridge preached nine Sabbaths, and Mr. John K. Wright two. A call to the pastorate was given to Rev. Mr. Shaw in 1842, which was declined, and the pulpit was occupied by Rev. C. Wellington and Rev. James H. Sayward. The ministry of the latter was during the great Millerite excitement (so-called), and, on one occasion, after preaching with much zeal and earnestness in opposition to what he believed to be erroneous doctrines, he remained through some other exercises in the unwarmed house and took a severe cold, from which he never recovered, but died January 13th, 1844. In the same year a call was given to Mr. John S. Brown to become pastor, and he was ordained and remained with the people about ten years, a useful minister among his own people and an excellent citizen. Mr. Brown was earnest and successful in maintaining the interests of the common schools, in establishing the library, and promoting temperance and morality among the people of Fitzwilliam. At a meeting to consider his resignation October 16th, 1854, it was voted

that we accede to his desire for the dissolving a union which has harmoniously and satisfactorily existed for more than ten years, and which on our part we could have wished to still continue.

Soon after leaving Fitzwilliam, Rev. Mr. Brown settled in Lawrence, Kan., and in 1884, at the age of seventy-eight, he visited his many friends in this place, apparently as intellectually vigorous and as much interested in the welfare of the town as he was thirty years before.

After the Baptist Society had erected a house of worship, the question of changing the church edifice, built in 1817, into a town hall, and other rooms for town purposes was agitated; and since these changes were made, the First Congregational Society has hired the Town Hall for its religious services.

During the ten years succeeding 1854, the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Messrs. W. M. Fernald, S. Lincoln, W. B. Thayer, George L. Piper, W. O. Willard, E. W. Coffin, J. H. Wiggan, Addison Brown, J. Orrell, J. E. Berry, and D. A. Russell, the latter serving a large part of the time, from 1861 to 1863 inclusive.

October 5th, 1863, Rev. B. S. Fanton became pastor, and under his ministry several united with the church, but his health failing, he closed his labors here March 6th, 1864.

After the pulpit had been supplied by a number of candidates, Rev. Eugene De Normandie was called to the pastorate November 8th, 1864. A little before this event a union was formed between the church in Fitzwilliam and the liberal Christians in Troy which was continued a year or more, during Mr. De Normandie's ministry, and was acceptable to both parties. This pastor removed to Marlborough, Mass., in 1865, and was succeeded in 1866 by Rev. Ira Bailey, formerly of Athol, Mass., who was installed in 1866, and remained pastor till September, 1868.

From that time till the present (1886), this society has had no settled minister, as many of the most prominent members have died, and others have removed from town in considerable numbers. Among the latter was Asa S. Kendall, Esq., who was one of the most active workers in the denomination. At different times, and for different periods, during these years, the pulpit has been supplied by Rev. Messrs. John H. Heywood, Grindall Reynolds, George C. Wright, James K. Applebee, and W. K. Brown, and at such seasons of the year as the people have thought most conducive to the interests of religion and the cause of liberal Christianity, holding their services during three or four months or more annually.

It may here be stated that, for many years, a very efficient ladies' organization has existed in connection with the First Congregational or Unitarian Society, which, by the industry and self-denial of its members, has furnished, from time to time, a considerable part of the funds used for the support of preaching in that denomination.

Mrs. Abba Batcheller, the secretary, has kindly furnished

the substance of what follows concerning it. The Unitarian Ladies' Society was organized June 29th, 1833. The constitution was prepared by Rev. J. K. Waite, and the name given to the organization was "The Fitzwilliam Mutual Improvement and Charitable Society," the object of which was declared to be "to improve its members and benefit others." None under twelve years of age could become members. The first board of officers chosen was as follows : Mrs. J. K. Waite, President ; Miss Selina Parker, Vice-President ; Miss M. E. Felton, Secretary and Treasurer ; Directors, Mrs. Felton, Miss Cooledge, Mrs. Cooledge, Mrs. Perkins, and Mrs. Fairbanks.

The meetings have been holden on the first Thursday afternoon and evening of each month. The funds raised have been used for denominational purposes, and for charitable objects, as needed. The fund at the present time amounts to three hundred dollars.

Mrs. Selina Parker Damon, the first vice-president, was chosen president in 1855, and resigned this office in 1884. Mrs. Caroline Chaplin served as vice-president from 1860 to 1884. Mrs. Isabinda Carter was secretary and treasurer from 1848 to the time of her death in 1863, when Mrs. Abba Batcheller took her place. Nearly two hundred names have been affixed to the constitution. Officers 1884 : Mrs. S. A. Carter, President ; Mrs. Maria Perry, Vice-President ; Mrs. Abba Batcheller, Secretary and Treasurer ; Directors, Mrs. Elizabeth Gage, Mrs. Julia Perry, Mrs. Amanda Haskell, Mrs. Alicia Newton, and Mrs. Susa Platts.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND ORTHODOX SOCIETY.

On March 12th, 1833, the town

voted that the contract between the town and the Rev. John Sabin ceased on the 5th of March, 1832, and that he is no longer the Minister of the church and congregation of this town ; and that the Selectmen notify him accordingly.

In 1832 a meeting-house was erected upon the spot where the church of the Orthodox Society now stands, Rev. Mr. Sabin giving the land used for this purpose. This was dedi-

cated October 31st, 1832. For a year or more Mr. Sabin's congregation worshipped in various places while the work of building was in progress. That house took fire, and was consumed on Thursday, January 15th, 1857. The next season the present church was erected, and was dedicated December 31st, 1857; Rev. A. P. Marvin, of Winchendon, Mass., preaching the sermon. Rev. Mr. Sabin was sole pastor from March 6th, 1805, till September 4th, 1844, when Mr. Horace Herrick, of Peacham, Vt., was ordained and installed as his colleague. About one year later, viz., October 14th, 1845, Mr. Sabin died. Rev. E. Rockwood, of Swanzey, preached the funeral sermon, which was printed, and from which the following extract is made :

He was uncommonly mild and even in his temper, social in his feelings, sincere in his friendships, hospitable to strangers, and courteous to all. He was interesting as a preacher. His sermons were generally well digested, discovering a good knowledge of the Scriptures and of human nature, with no small share of originality; evangelical in doctrine and highly practical. As a pastor in whom his people might repose full confidence, who was alive to all their spiritual wants, ready to sympathize with them in all their sorrows, consoling them under their varied trials, guiding their serious inquiries, and teaching them how to conflict with the king of terrors, his own people best knew his worth.

Probably no resident of this town, with the possible exception of the first pastor, Rev. Mr. Brigham, ever was able to do as much as Mr. Sabin in shaping the intellectual and moral character of the people of Fitzwilliam. During a considerable part of his long ministry, he was the trusted pastor of almost every family in town, and the young and the old looked up to him as a father. Five hundred of them he appears to have baptized, and seven hundred he had joined in marriage.

Mr. Horace Herrick was ordained and installed as colleague pastor with Mr. Sabin, a little more than one year before the death of the latter. After a pastorate of about three years he was dismissed at his own request.

Mr. Abraham Jenkins, Jr., a native of Barre, Mass., and a graduate of Amherst College, after supplying the pulpit for the space of four months, was called by the church and society to the pastorate, and ordained and installed as the fifth pastor,

February 16th, 1848, Rev. Edward Hitchcock, D.D., President of Amherst College, preaching the sermon. Mr. Jenkins's ministry continued about six years, when, with failing health, he asked and obtained his dismissal.

Rev. John Woods, a native of this town, then became acting pastor, and served the church and congregation faithfully for about six years, when Mr. William L. Gaylord was called and ordained pastor, which event took place September 14th, 1860, Rev. Edward N. Kirk, D.D., of Boston, preaching the sermon. Mr. Gaylord's ministry here covered a period of about seven years, when he was dismissed at his own request by a council, December 26th, 1867. He was afterward pastor in Nashua, N. H., Meriden, Conn., and Chicopee, Mass., where he died.

Rev. John F. Norton, a native of Goshen, Conn., who had been a pastor in Athol, Mass., between fifteen and sixteen years, was installed as pastor here, September 23d, 1868, after he had supplied the pulpit for six months. Rev. Dr. A. C. Thompson, of Roxbury, Mass., preached the sermon on that occasion. After a ministry of five years, Mr. Norton was dismissed at his own request, March 31st, 1873, and removed to Natick, Mass., where he now resides.

Rev. John Colby, of Southborough, Mass., was at once invited to supply the pulpit and was acting pastor for about thirteen years, when he removed to South Natick, Mass.

In the genealogical record which fills the latter part of this volume, the families of Rev. Benjamin Brigham, Rev. Abraham Jenkins, Jr., and Rev. John Woods will be found in their proper place.

Rev. John Sabin had no children. His wife was Mary Damon, of Woodstock, Vt., and to her reference will be made in the account of the Sabin parsonage.

The wife of Rev. Horace Herrick was Miss Aurelia Townsend, and they had no children.

Rev. William L. Gaylord was born at Woodstock, Conn., October 14th, 1831. His parents were Horace and Mary A. Gaylord. He graduated at Union Theological Seminary, New York City, in 1861. His wife was Miss Juliette Foster Hyde.



HORACE HERRICK.

ABRAHAM JENKINS, JR.

WILLIAM LUTHER GAYLORD.

JOHN FOOTE NORTON.

JOHN COLBY.

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTERS.

of Norwich, Conn., who died March 17th, 1875. Mr. Gaylord was pastor at Fitzwilliam about six years, at Nashua, N. H., three years, at Meriden, Conn., six years, and while pastor at Chicopee, Mass., died, March 26th, 1882, leaving three children, viz., Mary Foster, Josephine and William.

Rev. John F. Norton, of Natick, Mass., has a wife, Ann Maria Mann, daughter of Rev. Cyrus Mann, for many years pastor in Westminster, Mass. Lewis M. Norton, their only child, is Professor of Organic and Industrial Chemistry in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston. Mr. Norton is a native of Goshen, Conn., and the son of Lewis M. and Laura (Föote) Norton. He was educated at Yale College, and in the Theological Institute of Connecticut, now Hartford Theological Seminary.

Rev. John Colby has a wife and two daughters, viz., Annie Lavinia, a graduate of Wellesley College, 1880, and Helen King. Mr. Colby is a native of York, Me. He fitted for college at Gilmanton Academy, New Hampshire, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1852, and from Andover Theological Seminary in 1855. Before his removal to this town he had been pastor at Hampton, N. H., and Southborough, Mass. In 1884 he was elected a member of the New Hampshire Legislature and served in it in 1885.

The several pastors were the clerks of this church for about one hundred years. Deacon Timothy Blodgett is the clerk at the present time.

DEACONS.

There is no record of the choice of Benjamin Bigelow as the first deacon in 1771, and the tradition that he was chosen to fill this office at the organization of the church may be in fault.

John Fassett	was elected	April 18, 1771.
John Locke	"	July 8, 1773.
Samuel Griffin	"	April 25, 1798.
Oliver Damon	"	April 25, 1798.
Calvin Coolidge	"	May 10, 1827.
Rufus B. Phillips	"	May 10, 1827.

Deacon Fassett died January 12th, 1834. Deacon Locke removed to Sullivan, N. H., and died February 16th, 1823, at the age of ninety. Deacons Griffin and Damon resigned May 10th, 1827, when their successors, Deacons Coolidge and Phillips, were elected. Deacon Coolidge served as Deacon thirty-two years, and died April 6th, 1859. Deacon Joseph Harris, who had held this office in Saugus, Mass., was chosen to succeed Deacon Coolidge, but did not formally accept the office, though for a considerable time he discharged its duties; and both Deacons Phillips and Harris received the thanks of the church for their faithful service, November 1st, 1859. Messrs. Horace Coolidge and Joel Whittemore were then chosen deacons, and after having served about nine years, both resigned in 1868, when Timothy Blodgett and Dexter Collins were chosen to succeed them. Deacon Collins having removed to Winchendon, Mr. Leonard Byam was chosen in his place, May 4th, 1882.

Counting Deacon Harris, this church has therefore had the services of twelve deacons since 1771, and all have been men highly respected and beloved. The first six served eighty-eight years.

Of the membership of this church the following statements may be made. Before the settlement of the fourth pastor, Rev. Mr. Herrick, in 1844, there had been received six hundred and thirty-seven members, two hundred and forty-two males, and three hundred and ninety-five females. In 1871 the number received had reached eight hundred and four, of whom two hundred and ninety-four were males, and five hundred and ten females. During the last thirteen years fifty-two have been received, viz., fourteen males and thirty-eight females, making the whole number eight hundred and fifty-six, of whom three hundred and eight have been males and five hundred and forty-eight females. Of course a large part of this number have died or gone elsewhere, and for the last twenty years the actual membership has varied between one hundred and twenty-five and one hundred and fifty.

Nearly seventy years ago, the first Sabbath-school in Fitzwilliam was opened in the study of the pastor, Rev. Mr.

Sabin, with about twenty pupils. It was taught by Miss Sarah Knight and Miss Loisa Dutton. This was in 1817, and the next season more teachers were employed, and the sessions of the school were held in the village school-house. In 1819 the school was much larger and removed to the meeting-house, where it was regularly established as one of the important religious institutions of the place. As the other religious societies were formed and went into operation the Sabbath-school was adopted by them also, and thus has become general.

PARSONAGES.

The first pastor, Rev. Mr. Brigham, built for himself, owned, and occupied till his death, the house, recently removed, that stood under the shadow of the great elm-tree, a little east of the cemetery.

Rev. Mr. Williams boarded at the house of Mr. Matthias Felton, and had no family.

Rev. Mr. Sabin owned the house which he occupied, a little south of the Orthodox church, which is now the summer residence of Mrs. Laura Simonds Estabrook, of Boston. The pastors that followed found homes in different parts of the village till, during the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Gaylord, the Orthodox Society purchased for a parsonage the house afterward owned and occupied by the late Mr. John Forristall, and in which his widow now resides. In the year 1873 the society, having sold their parsonage to Mr. Forristall, erected a new one, at an expense of about four thousand dollars, a little south of the home of Captain J. S. Adams.

As everything connected with the pastorate and home of Rev. John Sabin has an abiding interest with the people of this place, Mrs. Laura Simonds Estabrook, of Boston, who now owns the Sabin parsonage, has kindly furnished, by request, most of the facts that follow.

Before he received a call to settle as pastor in this place, Mr. Sabin (then a licentiate) had passed through it, on horseback, on his way from Connecticut to Woodstock, Vt. About a year after his ordination, in 1806, he brought his bride to this place. They came on horseback from Vermont to Keene,

where they were met by a delegation of twenty of their parishioners, also on horseback, who escorted their pastor and **his bride to their home** in Fitzwilliam. For six weeks they boarded with Matthias Felton, and then purchased and removed to the Sabin house. The purchase was made of Mr. Samuel Kilburn, who, it would seem, had agreed to go on with the work upon the house, which at the time of the purchase and occupancy by Mr. and Mrs. Sabin was in an unfinished state.

The house then was only one story and a half high, and the clapboards had not been laid.

The sitting-room and bedroom had been nearly finished, but Mrs. Kilburn had slept in that bedroom an entire summer with nothing but a blanket to protect the outer door. As he was able Mr. Sabin added the second story, the kitchen, and other convenient and comfortable rooms. His study was a room leading off from the kitchen, and it was in this that the first Sabbath-school was organized by Misses Loisa Dutton and Sarah Knight.

At different times Mr. Sabin had with him young men who were fitting for college, and among the many names of those who are remembered occur those of Samuel Dinsmore, George Dunbar, and Thomas M. Edwards, of Keene. About 1839 or 1840 Roswell D. Hitchcock, D.D., LL.D., was in Fitzwilliam as a teacher, and after the close of his school he remained some time to study with Mr. Sabin. Rev. Cyrus Stone also was often at the parsonage. Miss Dorothy Dix was among the many visitors that were entertained under that roof, and it may interest some to know that the Hon. George P. Marsh, who did so much by his learning and noble character to honor his country among the crowned heads of Southern Europe as the Minister of the United States, was taught his letters by Mrs. Sabin while a teacher in Vermont.

This lady, both as the wife of the pastor during his long and eventful ministry and as his widow in their old home for twenty years, was noted for her unvarying sweetness of disposition, her wit, her bright fancies, her culture and charity, so far as her limited means would allow.



MRS. MARY (DAMON) SABIN.



John Lake,
Blencian.

Mrs. Mary Sabin died March 29th, 1865, aged eighty-six years.

The portrait of Rev. Mr. Sabin here given is from an unfinished picture painted under very peculiar circumstances. It was the last work of the artist, Ezra Woolson, a young man of much promise in his profession. There was to be (January 1st, 1845) a social gathering at the parsonage of more than usual interest. It was not professedly a "donation party," but some of Mr. Sabin's friends quietly planned to give it that character, and Mr. Woolson proposed to paint a portrait of Mr. Sabin as his donation. The picture was drawn and hastily painted the same day the party was to take place, so that it might be shown at the assemblage in the evening, and was afterward to be finished and completed in a proper manner. But the artist was taken sick the next day and died within two weeks, aged twenty-one years. Mr. Sabin died the succeeding autumn.

The centennial anniversary of the organization of the church in Fitzwilliam was observed with appropriate services March 26th and 27th, 1871. Rev. John F. Norton, at that time pastor of the church, prepared and preached on the Sabbath, March 26th, two historical and commemorative discourses, which were deposited (in manuscript) with the records of the church. It was proposed at that time to print these discourses, but this project was not favored by the author, because of his conviction that the facts contained and arranged in them would soon be needed in the preparation of a town history. On the Sabbath when they were delivered very large audiences assembled, the other religious congregations in the town dispensing with their services and uniting in the commemoration.

During the evening of the following day, March 27th, just one hundred years from the organization of the church and the ordination of the first pastor, a large company assembled in the Town Hall for a social meeting, and listened to a recital of a multitude of interesting facts concerning the early settlers of the town and the progress of events during the century then closing.

Among the speakers, Dr. Silas Cummings, Mr. Charles Bigelow, and John Whittemore, Esq., all of whom have since died, and Captain Jonathan S. Adams, among those now living, were listened to by a deeply-interested audience.

The Fitzwilliam Female Benevolent Society is connected with this church, and has been in operation since the year 1845, holding meetings monthly, or more frequently, according to circumstances.

Its object has been to raise funds for benevolent work at home and elsewhere. From time to time it has sent boxes of clothing to the families of destitute home missionaries at the West, and aided in the support of the pastor, in repairing and furnishing the meeting-house, in purchasing an organ, in repairing the old parsonage, in building the new parsonage, in procuring hymn-books for the church, and in helping forward other objects of a similar nature.

From the record of payments for those objects since 1854, it would appear that this society has raised and used for the purposes named above the sum of three thousand three hundred and three dollars and ninety-seven cents, or an average of about one hundred and three dollars each year.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH AND SOCIETY.

From the History of Troy and from other sources, it appears that in November, 1789, a Baptist church was organized at the house of Agabus Bishop, in the south-western part of what is now the town of Troy, with twenty-five members. This church was known for about twenty-five years as "the Baptist Church of Fitzwilliam." For twelve years it depended for preaching chiefly upon the Baptist pastors in the vicinity, and school and dwelling-houses furnished the places for its meetings. Among those named as pastors of that church, after 1791, are Rufus Freeman, Arunah Allen, and Darius Fisher, the last-mentioned of whom is said to have been pastor for sixteen years.

In 1815, about the time when Troy was incorporated, this church was divided to form what are now the Fitzwilliam and Troy Baptist churches. Some twelve or fourteen of its mem-

bers became the nucleus of the Fitzwilliam church, and this was called "the First Baptist Church of Fitzwilliam." *

Several circumstances operated to impede its early growth, especially the fact that it had no meeting-house from the time of its organization until 1841, a period of twenty-six years. And having no church edifice, it could not support a regular ministry and enjoy the labors of a settled pastor.

Rev. Arunah Allen appears to have been the first Baptist preacher belonging to this town, and mention is made of him in the records of the Baptist church at different times for several years, though he may not have been formally recognized as its pastor.

Tradition asserts that Rev. Mr. Allen, who resided for a considerable period in School District No. 4, and whose name appears in the list of school-teachers near the close of the last and the opening of the present century, preached, more or less regularly, to congregations gathered in the school-houses in the south and west parts of Fitzwilliam, drawing his audiences to some extent from the adjoining towns in Massachusetts, as well as in New Hampshire. That he was regarded with favor as a man of good judgment and business capacity appears from the fact that he served the town as one of its selectmen in 1803-05, being chairman of the board in 1805. Mr. Allen came to this town in 1799, began to preach in 1807 or 1808, and was ordained in 1810 or 1811 as an elder of the old Baptist church, whose members at that time resided largely on West Hill and in Richmond. He continued to preach in Fitzwilliam till 1823, when he removed to Stockbridge, Vt.

Elder Fisher and several other ministers served this church as occasional supplies, but no labors by a pastor are mentioned for a quarter of a century after it was organized; and certainly the circumstances of the case confirm the opinion of the present pastor, that the church that had passed through hard struggles, and doubtless often met with sad reverses in maintaining its existence for so many years with small pecuniary

* If this church regarded itself as the continuation of the one organized in the house of Agabus Bishop, and dated from 1789 instead of 1815, few would dispute its claims.

means and few members, must have had something of the spirit of Roger Williams.

But in 1840 the church seemed to obtain a new lease of life, for in May of that year Rev. John Peacock commenced evangelistic labors in Fitzwilliam, and found a church of twenty-two members ready to enter heartily into his work. He commenced at once a series of meetings, which were held partly in the old meeting-house and partly in a school-house, and continued fifteen days. More than forty persons were supposed to have been converted, of whom thirty-six united with the church by baptism, and several others by letter.

These additions gave the Baptist church new strength and courage.

August 17th of the same year, the members of the church formed themselves into an ecclesiastical society, to be called the Fitzwilliam Baptist Society, and this was incorporated by an act of the Legislature of New Hampshire, August 22d, 1840.

During the same year the church and society began to build a house of worship, to be fifty feet long and forty feet broad, and eighteen hundred dollars having been expended in its erection, it was dedicated in August, 1841. Soon after this a call was extended to Mr. Joseph Storer to become pastor. This being accepted, Mr. Storer was ordained November 17th, 1841, and was the first minister to occupy the pulpit of the new meeting-house. He was pastor till June, 1843, when Rev. Warren Cooper was called to the pastorate. Mr. Cooper filled this office about one year.

He was succeeded, June 10th, 1844, by Rev. John Peacock, whose pastorate continued till 1847. August 5th of that year Rev. C. M. Willard was installed pastor, and continued his labors more than three years.

April 3d, 1851, Rev. W. H. Dalrymple became pastor, and remained such till 1854, when Rev. A. W. Goodnow succeeded to the office. For about three years after February 10th, 1855, Rev. A. B. Eggleston was pastor, while for two years after August 22d, 1858, Rev. N. B. Jones served the church in that capacity. In 1861, Rev. J. N. Chase became

pastor, and continued such till his death, September 1st, 1862. **Rev. George W. Cutting** became pastor December 4th, 1862, and remained with the people till November 5th, 1868. Mr. Cutting represented Fitzwilliam in the State Legislature in 1865, and again in 1866, and was a member of the Superintending School Committee.

Rev. E. H. Watrous was called to the pastorate April 23d, 1869, and closed his labors here July 1st, 1872. August 25th of that year Rev. H. W. Day became pastor, and remained such till June 28th, 1874.

Mr. W. H. Dean, of the Newton Theological Institute, was ordained pastor July 4th, 1875, and remained one year.

The present officiating deacons of the church, Mr. H. A. Firmin and Mr. S. S. Stone, were elected September 5th, 1875.

The next pastor was Rev. Sumner Latham, who closed his labors, after about two years' service, in 1878. He was succeeded July 7th, 1878, by Rev. William Reed, who served the people till November 9th, 1879. From this time till August 7th, 1881, the church was without a pastor, when Rev. A. Dunn, the present incumbent, was called to the pastorate.

The church now numbers sixty-six members, and the congregations upon the Sabbath range from sixty-five to one hundred. The system of having two regular sermons on the Sabbath is still adhered to, but does not give universal satisfaction.

In 1873 and 1874 the meeting-house was extensively repaired and made substantially new within and without, at the cost of about three thousand dollars, and it was rededicated February 3d, 1874. There are three convenient rooms in the basement of the church that are well furnished for social meetings, the Sabbath-school, ladies' circles, and social entertainments. No debt rests upon the church or society. For several years a Ladies' Benevolent Society has been in successful operation, and most of its hard-earned funds have been expended in renovating and furnishing the meeting-house and the vestries, while something has been done for other objects.

There is also a Woman's Home and Foreign Mission Society, whose object is to raise funds to spread the Gospel in this and other lands.

In connection with the church there is a flourishing Sabbath-school, with ten officers and teachers and one hundred and twenty-one pupils. The average attendance is about fifty-five. Most of the facts given above were furnished by the pastor, Rev. A. Dunn.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL SOCIETY.

About 1866 Rev. William Merrill, a member of the New England Conference, but with health insufficient to take a regular appointment, opened a Sabbath-school in District No. 3, which was not far from his residence. The school increased till it numbered one hundred and twenty-five members, when Mr. Joel Howe, one of the leading manufacturers of Howeville, and others, favored the erection of a chapel for public worship in that village. Mr. Howe offered the necessary land, but his death led to the abandonment of this part of the project and to the purchase and fitting up of the Howe grocery store as a chapel. The cost of this was met by "the Ladies' Aid Society" and individual friends of the enterprise. The pulpit was supplied by Rev. Messrs. William Merrill, Joseph Merrill, Henry A. Merrill, and George A. Tyril, for about ten years, when it was deemed best for the interests of Methodism in this town to have a place of worship at the depot village. The New Hampshire Conference sent Rev. S. S. Dudley to labor for this end, and as the result of his faithful work a small chapel, costing about one thousand dollars, was erected. The site, purchased of Mr. D. H. Reed, cost one hundred dollars, while the materials for the building and most of the labor were donated by friends of the undertaking.

The chapel was dedicated November, 1877, Dr. Bradford K. Pierce preaching the sermon.

An audience of from forty to fifty is in attendance in this chapel on the Sabbath, while the Sabbath-school numbers twenty-one, and that at Howeville twenty-five. Since 1876

the two pulpits have been supplied by Rev. Messrs. S. S. Dudley, J. A. Parker, William Merrill, A. W. L. Nelson, and William Twombly.

The facts for this sketch have been kindly furnished by Mrs. M. E. Spaulding.

CHAPTER X.

FITZWILLIAM IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

Town Meetings to Provide Soldiers—Colonel James Reed at Lexington and Bunker Hill—New Hampshire Troops at Bunker Hill—Committee of Inspection—The Tory, Breed Bachelor—Patriotism of the Town—List of Fitzwilliam Soldiers—Provisions for the Army—Pensioners.
The War of 1812-14.

THE early town meetings of Fitzwilliam were held under the intense excitement prevailing throughout the country that foreshadowed the American Revolution.

In 1774 the famous Boston Port bill and the bill for removing those charged with capital offences to Great Britain for trial, with other oppressive acts, had gone into effect, and the whole country was aroused to resistance.

Deputies from eleven of the American provinces had been in session at Philadelphia to protest against the encroachments of the mother country, and had adjourned, to meet again in May, 1775. Early in that year, or late in the year 1774, the proceedings of this Congress seem to have been laid before the people of each town, certainly in the province of New Hampshire, and they had been requested to vote upon the question whether or not they would abide by the declarations made at Philadelphia.

The people of Fitzwilliam were called together for this purpose February 23d, 1775, and the call for the meeting presented to the selectmen was signed by Robert Ware, Jacob Wilson, William Locke, William Withington, John Locke, Gersham Brigham, Amos Knight, Aaron Morse, Nathan Platts, John Chamberlain, Thomas Weatherbee, Reuben Pratt, and Ebenezer Potter.

Deacon John Locke was moderator of this meeting, and it was

“Voted to abide by the proceedings of the Continental Congress.”

It was also voted to raise a Committee of Correspondence to consist of three members, and John Mellen, John Locke, and John Fassett were chosen. It was also

“Voted that this Committee be a Committee of Inspection likewise.” It was

Voted that the Town Treasurer pay one pound and seven shillings to John Giddeness (Giddings?) Esqr., of Exeter, on or before the 29th day of March next, agreeable to a desire of John Wentworth, Esqr. (not Governor John Wentworth), to defray our part of the charges of the Delegates chosen to represent this Province in the next Continental Congress and to pay the balance due the former delegates.

These “former delegates” were Nathaniel Folsom and John Sullivan, who had been chosen by a convention at Exeter in 1774. To this convention every town in the province had been invited by written letters to send deputies, and every town had been requested to pay its quota of a fund of two hundred pounds to defray the expenses of the convention. It was also recommended to the several towns to observe a day of fasting and prayer in the several congregations, “on account of the gloomy appearance of public affairs.” The money was collected and “the fast was observed,” says Belknap, “with religious solemnity.”

The Fitzwilliam “Committee of Inspection” provided for at the meeting, February 23d, 1775, attended at once to the business for which it was created. Its duties were not definitely set forth in the vote by which such a committee was raised, but it is easy to conjecture what these three men were expected to look after, for in the very opening of the struggle with Great Britain there were those in all our towns who secretly, if not openly, favored the cause of the oppressors, and stood ready to betray all the precious interests of freedom and justice. Some of these had grudges against their patriotic neighbors that they were waiting to gratify, while others were jealous of the popularity of some of the leading men of the town or province, who were outspoken in the cause of liberty. Others still were determined to make money from the sale of forbidden articles.

For these and other reasons there were some who needed to be watched or "inspected."

At a later date we shall find the selectmen looking after the equipments of all the men in town capable of bearing arms, but this was not the business of this Committee of Inspection.

That this "Committee of Correspondence and Inspection" understood that they had duties to perform and were ready for any emergency that might arise is evident from the communication that they soon made to the General Assembly of the Colony of New Hampshire, which follows.

The original paper, of which this is an exact copy, is carefully preserved in the office of the Secretary of State at Concord.

To the Hon. the General Assembly of the Colony of New Hampshire,
Most Honorable Gentlemen.

Whereas the late Congress for ye above said Colony past a vote on the 16th day of Nov. 1775 that the Committees of Corispondence or Saifty for ye several Towns in this Colony [should furnish] the names of one person or persons whom they should know or suspect to be enemical to this country.

These humbly sheweth to the Hon. Assembly that the Committee of Inspection of the Town of Fitzwilliam are of opinion that BREED BACHELOR, of peckersfield (Packersfield), has conducted in an enemical maner, viz in openly violating the Assotiation of the Continental Congress by buying a large quantity of india tea and freely offering it for sale as he was passing though this town and did dispose of some of it to one or more persons in town, as we are able to prove from the confestion of Frederic Reed who has declared before one of this Committee and before other persons that he bought tea of the said Bachelor, and that he had retailed the most of it out again, and that he would by more if he could get it. and gave out some very threatening words in case any Committee or any persons should come to examine or disturb him about it whom we think has conducted in an Enemecal maner likewise.

We would give Your honors a short specemin of the conduct of the above said Bachelor's conduct as he past through the Town viz that the said Bachelor came to Town and taried over night at the above said Reeds'—the Committee of No 5 (Marlborough) understood that he was past though their town with a quantity of tea, they sent one of their Committee to persue him, who came to the house of Capt. John Mellen, inholder in Fitzwilliam, some time in the night and put theare. Capt.

Mellen being one of our Committee the next morning the said Bachelor came along mounted on horseback with 3 bags of tea under him. Mr. Abijah Tucker, the Committee man from No. 5, went out and desired the said Bachelor to stop and come in to the house, but he refused. Mr. Tucker insisted something upon his stopping, the said Bachelor struck Mr. Tucker with a club he had in his hand and wounded him on the hand, and rode of as fast as he could. Capt. Mellen then took his horse and persued after him, and overtook him about a mile and a half. And persuaded him to turn back and settle the matter. he consented and came back to ye house of Capt. Mellen and agreed to leave it out to Major Farrah and Major Brigham what should be done with the tea who gave their judgment that the tea should be stored with Capt. Mellen till there was some order of Congress concerning it, and upon their going out to his horse to bring in the tea they found but one bag. The Said Bachelor said he had two bags of tea, and that Mr. Tucker had stiole one bag and that he should pay for it, but mistrusting that the said Bachelor had hid it some persons went in search of it and found it cast into the brush a little out of the Roade and brought it in—and upon further investigation it appeared that the said Bachelor had three bags when he past the house next to Capt. Mellen's, seach being made the third bag was found in the brush not far from where the other was found, which bag he would not own untill the next morning and then he owned it and began woriuing at Capt. Mellen to let him have this bag untill the next evening when Major Brigham came to Capt. Mellen's house and Capt. Mellen desired Major Brigham to take that bag of tea and carry it home, and store it so that he might get rid of Bachelor, and upon the whole the Major received the bag at the hand of Capt. Mellen, one of this Committee in the presence of several persons. When Bachelor who was out of the room come to understand that Capt. Mellen had sent away that bag, he appeared to be very angry, and the next morning he went of and has since reported that Major Brigham stole that bag, which is a very fals report.

The whole of which affair we submit to your wise consideration and determination.

Fitzwilliam ye
6th of March, 1776.

John Fassett	} Com. of Corispondence and Inspection for the Town of Fitzwilliam.
John Mellen	
John Locke	

The reputation of this Tory, Breed Bachelor, was very bad, and the loyal people rejoiced when he was out of the way.

When the town voted to abide by the proceedings of the Continental Congress, it committed itself without any reservation to the cause of the colonies against the unlawful and cruel usurpations of Great Britain. How much was involved in that act the voters did not comprehend, but they were shrewd enough to perceive that the most important interests were at stake, and that they were taking a stand from which it might be next to impossible to retreat.

In judging of their act a number of facts merit consideration. In 1773 the people of Fitzwilliam were few in number—only two hundred and fourteen, and in 1775 two hundred and fifty—and they were scattered over a comparatively large territory. They were, moreover, mostly poor or in very moderate circumstances, as they had exhausted nearly all the means they possessed in the purchase of their farms and improvements. But little of the land had been cleared, and all they had done in this direction had been done at great disadvantage. Their dwellings were mostly poor log-huts with very few of the conveniences of life. To improve their condition a little, year by year, demanded great economy, untiring industry, and the severest toil, so that if there was a town in Southern New Hampshire that seemed to require all its resources within itself to render life more comfortable within its borders, and to make better provision for the education of its children, that town was Fitzwilliam.

And then for our poor and unprotected colonies to defy the power and wealth of Great Britain must have seemed to the wise a hazardous experiment. And yet there appears to have been no hesitation about sustaining the acts of the Continental Congress. The royal Governor of New Hampshire stood ready to do and was doing all in his power to keep the province from joining the patriots in other sections of the land, but the men of Fitzwilliam were ready and even eager to cast in their lot with their self-sacrificing countrymen.

For the space of seven years after 1775 we find the acts of this town in all their business meetings largely influenced by the wants of the country at large, and the calls for funds,

provisions, and troops to free the land from the armies of Great Britain.

These were the absorbing matters that confronted the people here, just as they had succeeded in establishing their town government, and for these long and anxious years it is not surprising if everything else was treated as of only secondary importance in their town meetings.

In 1775, and very soon after American and British blood had been shed at Lexington and Concord, Mass., Governor John Wentworth determined, as he expressed his purpose, "to plant the root of peace in New Hampshire," and "bring about an affectionate reconciliation with the mother country." A new Assembly was called by him in May of that year, but the members asked for time to consult their constituents, and while their reasonable request called for delay a convention was doing its work at Exeter in which the province was largely represented. The Fitzwilliam pastor, Rev. Benjamin Brigham, was a member of that convention. This body sanctioned, in the plainest manner, all that the patriots had done to prevent the British troops from keeping New Hampshire in subjection by means of a powerful battery at Great Island, and, moreover, instructed the members of the Governor's Assembly how to act when they should again meet for business. The anticipated result soon followed, and in August, 1775, the Governor issued a proclamation adjourning his Assembly till April, 1776, which was the last act of his administration, and the end of the British Government in New Hampshire. This had been maintained in one form or another for ninety-five years.

Some time during the year 1775, and possibly at the meeting held on May 10th of that year, the town arranged for the formation of a military company. The record follows.

At a meeting called by the selectmen

Voted and chose Capt. Asa Brigham, Moderator. Chose John Mellen, Captain of the Militia of Fitzwilliam. Chose Levi Brigham, Lieutenant, Samuel Kendall, Ensign, and Daniel Mellen, Clerk.

Voted and Chose Messrs. Caleb Winch, Reuben Pratt, Nathan Mixer,

and Benjamin Davidson, Sergeants. Chose Leonard Brigham, Jonas Knight, David Perry, and Ezekiel Mixer, Corporals.

And also the Selectmen, agreeable to the directions of the Warrant for said Meeting, examined the Inhabitants in relation to what firearms were wanting, agreeable to the directions of the Provincial Congress, in order to make return thereof to said Congress, and found the following persons destitute—Viz. Ichabod Smith, Joseph Dunn, Daniel Squires, Joseph Brown, Joseph Grow, James Rice, Capt. Brigham, James Butler, Sip Jawhar, Rev. Brigham, Doctor Brigham, Stephen Harris and Son, Deac. Fassett, Leonard Brigham, Nathan Mixer, John Chamberlain, Robert Ware.

To understand this action on the part of the town it should be mentioned that the convention at Exeter, in adopting measures for a new form of government to take the place of that which had been administered by the Wentworths under royal authority, reorganized the militia of the province. Negroes, Indians, and a few of the highest civil and judicial officers were not included, but with these exceptions the entire male population of the province between the ages of sixteen and sixty-five were to be enrolled as belonging to the Training Band, or the Minute Men. The former of these, the Training Band, included all the males between sixteen and fifty years of age, with the exceptions named above ; and each of these men was required to furnish himself with the following articles, and to keep the same at all times ready for use—viz.:

A good fire arm, good ramrod, a worm, priming wire and brush, a bayonet fitted to his gun, a scabbard and belt therefor, and a cutting sword or a tomahawk or hatchet, a pouch containing a cartridge box that will hold fifteen rounds of cartridges at least, a hundred buck shot, a jack knife and tow for wadding, six flints, one pound of powder, forty leaden bullets fitted to his gun, a knapsack and blanket, a canteen or wooden bottle sufficient to hold one quart.

The Minute Men comprised all the males between sixteen and sixty-five years of age not belonging to the Training Band, with the exceptions stated above. What equipments they were required to possess and keep in order we are not informed.

In 1773 a census of the inhabitants of Fitzwilliam was taken by the selectmen, who were chosen at the first town meeting

—viz., John Mellen, Edward Kendall, and Joseph Grow.
The result was as follows :

Unmarried men between sixteen and sixty.....	18
Married “ “ “ “ “	44
Males under sixteen.....	55
<hr/>	
Total males.....	117
Females, married.....	44
“ unmarried	53
<hr/>	
Total females.....	97 97
<hr/>	
Total population.....	214

There was not a man in town over sixty years of age, and there was not a widow in Fitzwilliam; nor was there a slave, though ten were found in Cheshire County.

The proportionate number belonging to the Training Band and the Minute Men of this town in 1775, when the population had reached the number of two hundred and fifty, it is impossible to state. The former were, however, largely in the majority, and to this class those found “destitute,” or deficient in the matter of equipments, as named above, must have chiefly belonged.

In every town in New Hampshire a Training Band was organized, so that efficient regiments might be ready for service on any emergency; and thus it was that this State was so fully and ably represented by two regiments at the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17th, 1775.

The Fitzwilliam Militia Company, whose organization has been already noted, was plainly its training band, and such companies were required to meet eight times each year for drill.

The battle of Bunker Hill proved that the New Hampshire patriots did not wait to be summoned to the defence of the country when its liberty was in peril.

General Stark, a veteran of the French and Indian War, was at his saw-mill when he was informed of the fight at Lexington. Going to his house, he changed his dress, mounted

his horse, and starting at once for Boston called his countrymen to arms throughout the entire journey.

Medford was designated as the place of rendezvous, and in the hall of an old tavern there (called for a long time New Hampshire Hall) Stark was chosen colonel by a hand vote. Four days after the fight at Lexington, two thousand soldiers, from nearly every town in New Hampshire, had reported themselves for duty, and, we are assured, they did not wish to return to their homes "till the work was done." In May, 1775, the Provincial Congress of this State voted to raise two thousand men, to comprise three regiments. John Stark, James Reed, and Enoch Poor were placed at the head of these regiments, and they were the first from beyond Massachusetts that were placed under the command of Major-General Artemas Ward, the commander-in-chief of the forces assembled in the vicinity of Boston.

Through Colonel James Reed, who commanded the Second (afterward called the Third) Regiment of these New Hampshire soldiers, Fitzwilliam was brought at once into prominence at the battle of Bunker Hill.

Some account of this brave and patriotic man (who was one of the fathers of this town) has been already given in Chapter VII.

It may here be remarked, however, that James Reed, a native of Woburn, Mass., and born in 1724, had served in the French and Indian War at the head of a company of provincial troops, and that he did excellent service in that capacity till peace was restored. Upon the breaking out of hostilities with Great Britain, he was among the first to hasten to the front, and was appointed, as we have seen, to the command of the Second New Hampshire Regiment, which was posted in the vicinity of Boston. June 13th, 1775, he took the station assigned him on Charlestown Neck, and it is asserted that he was the first officer of his rank on the field, and his the only New Hampshire regiment actually on the ground and ready for action on the morning of the Bunker Hill battle. He was stationed with Colonel Stark on the left wing, at a rail fence about forty rods in the rear of the redoubt, toward the Mystic

River, a position that they reached "under a shower of iron hail that was falling around them." Newly mown hay that they found upon the ground, stuffed between the rails of the fence, formed for the troops a breastwork that was better than nothing. Opposed to these New Hampshire troops was a Welsh regiment, that had gained great renown in the European wars, seven hundred strong. The next day only eighty-three of its men were fit for duty. "On the ground where the mowers had swung their scythes in peace the day before," said Colonel Stark, in his report, "the dead lay as thick as sheep in a fold." Twice during the action the New Hampshire troops drove back the foe in their front, and kept them in check, while their fellow-patriots from Massachusetts and Connecticut escaped from their exposed position. Colonel Stark's regiment lost fifteen killed and missing, while sixty were wounded. Of Colonel Reed's regiment three were killed, one was missing, and twenty-three were wounded.

The historians of the battle of Bunker Hill award the highest praise to the New Hampshire troops and their leaders, for their cool courage and genuine bravery in that memorable conflict.

Before the battle, June 17th, Colonel Reed wrote to the Committee of Safety as follows :

I repaired to Medford and there I met with Capt. Hinds, Whitcombe, Town. Hutchins, Man, Marcy and Thomas. Whitcombe and Thomas I took out of Coll. Stark's Regiment for the 2 Companys that was assigned me—then I was informed by Coll. Stark that Medford was so full of soldiers that it was necessary for some to take some other quarters—then I aplayed myself to Gen. Ward and there received orders in these words.

Head Quarters June the 12. 1775.

General Orders.

That Coll. Reed quarter his Regiment in the houses near Charlestown Neck and keep all necessary Guards between his Barracks and the Ferry and on Bunker Hill.

J. Ward Sectary.

Then Sirs on the 13th I marched my Regiment from Medford to Charlestown Neck and with the assistance of Mr. Turfts, one of the Selectmen of Charlestown, I got my men into good Barracks and then

raised my gard consisting of 1 Capt. 2 Luts. 4 Sergeants 4 corporals and 40 privates.

I am, Gentelmen your obliged servant

J. Reed.

Other documents of great interest regarding the battle of Bunker Hill and the preparations for it should here be introduced, especially as such a prominent place in it was assigned to Fitzwilliam and New Hampshire generally.

Here is a copy of "Col. Reed's Return June ye 14, 1775," three days before the battle :

Col. James Reed.

Lieutenant Col. Gilman.

Major Hale.

	Fit for service.	Unfit.
Capt. Jacob Hinds' Co	54	10
" Josiah Crosley's Co.....	44	15
" Philip Thomas' Co... ..	46	5
" Jonathan Whitcombs' Co....	59	11
" Benjamin Mann's Co.....	49	16
" William Walker's Co.....	46	19
" Levi Spauldings' Co.... ..	44	14
" Ezra Town's Co.....	52	9
" John Marcy's Co.....	48	28
" Hezekiah Hutchins' Co.	44	21

Adjutant Stephen Peabody.

Quarter Master Isaac Frye, rank of Captain.

Quite a number of those reported above as unfit for service were probably able to enter the fight three days later, as Colonel Reed led into the battle on June 17th five hundred and thirty-nine men.*

Of the "about one thousand men" who erected the fortifications on Bunker Hill, one hundred and ten or more men were said to belong to New Hampshire. Prescott commanded these men.

On June 17th, the day of the battle, Colonel Reed's regiment was moved to the front soon after noon, and at two o'clock orders came for all to move, when Colonel Reed's regiment joined Colonel Stark's.

* For many of the facts and calculations that immediately follow, the writer of this history is indebted to the Rolls of the New Hampshire Soldiers in the Revolutionary War, compiled by Hon. Isaac W. Hammond and published by the State.

Before they had reached the positions assigned them, they encountered two regiments (supposed to have been from Massachusetts or Connecticut, or from both) that had halted before the raking fire from the British fleet, when Major McClary, from Epsom, who was killed on the retreat, rode forward and said to the commanders of those regiments, that if they did not intend to move on he desired them to open their ranks and let the New Hampshire regiments pass. This was done, and Colonels Stark and Reed marched their men deliberately to the Hill. Colonel Reed's regiment seems to have been on the right of the other New Hampshire troops, and these troops, with Captain Knowlton's company of Connecticut men on the right of them all, appear to have made a continuous line from the redoubt to the river. The New Hampshire men held their position till the redoubt was taken, when they retired in good order without having been defeated. The historian Bancroft asserts that "Prescott's troops would have been cut off but for the unfaltering courage of these provincials."

Drake says, "The weight of the first and second attacks" of the British troops "was borne by the defenders of the rail fence, where General Howe in person attacked with the very flower of his army, supported by artillery."

The computation has been made that the American troops actually engaged in the fight numbered but nineteen hundred and eighty-five men, and that of these twelve hundred and thirty were from New Hampshire. Mr. Hammond's enumeration of these twelve hundred and thirty is as follows :

Colonel Stark's Regiment.....	593
Colonel Reed's ".....	539
Dow's Company under Prescott.....	59
Other New Hampshire men in Prescott's Regiment..	50
From Plaistow in Colonel Frye's Regiment.....	4

1245

Deduct deserters and some sick..... 15

and it will leave of New Hampshire men.....1230
or considerably more than half of the entire force of the pa-

triot's that were actually engaged in the conflict. The numbers of the killed and wounded have been already given, but the name of no Fitzwilliam soldier is found in these lists.

The staff roll of Colonel Reed's regiment shows that the pay of Colonel Reed commenced April 23d, 1775, or four days after the fight at Lexington, and that he received twelve pounds per month for his service, with the allowance of one penny per mile for travel.

Colonel James Reed's return, June 21st, 1775, or four days after the Bunker Hill battle.

Col. James Reed.

Lieutenant Col. Gilman.

Major Hale.

Capt. Whitcomb's Co.....	52 fit for duty.	14 unfit.
" Thomas' Co.....	37 " " "	17 "
" Town's Co.....	52 " " "	8 "
" Hinds' Co.	39 " " "	24 "
" Crosby's Co.....	41 " " "	16 "
" Mann's Co.....	49 " " "	16 "
" Walker's Co....	51 " " "	15 "
" Spaulding's Co.....	36 " " "	17 "
" Marcy's Co.....	42 " " "	26 "
" Hutchins' Co.....	54 " " "	9 "

Adjutant Stephen Peabody.

Quarter Master Isaac Frye, Captain.

These returns show considerable changes in Colonel Reed's regiment in the space of seven days, proving that recruits had joined some of the companies, while others had lost more or less by the casualties of the Bunker Hill battle.

Colonel Reed's "return of losses" was as follows :

1 Corporal and 3 privates killed, 2 Sergeants and 26 privates wounded.

He returned also under the head of

Clothing and Implements lost in retreat

103 Blankets	36 Gunns
133 Coats	1 Bagonet
26 Waistcoats	5 Swords
62 pair Breeches	4 Cartridge Boxes
189 pair Stockings	99 Haversacks
47 pair Shoes	3 Pistols
218 Shirts	1 Fife
46 pair Trowses	3 Drumms.
4 Hatts	

To these statements and copies of documents respecting the part assigned to the New Hampshire troops in general, and to the men from Fitzwilliam in particular, in the battle of Bunker Hill, the following may here be added, which was taken in substance from the lips of Needham Maynard and committed at once to writing, some years after the close of the Revolutionary War. Mr. Maynard was from Framingham, Mass., but soon after the return of peace he became a resident of Fitzwilliam, and for a number of years was somewhat active in the affairs of this town.*

On the morning of June 17th, 1775, the colonels in command of the regiments about to move upon Bunker Hill were in anxious consultation regarding the movement of their troops, and especially in respect to a *Commander-in-Chief* to lead them in the conflict, when General Warren rode up, unattended.† The regimental commanders at once said to him, in substance, that they were only colonels, that there was not a general among them, and proposed that he, General Warren, should take command over them, and lead them in the approaching battle.

He declined the proposition, saying that he was not prepared for such a position, that he had no staff officers, not even an aid, when one of the colonels, turning to a young soldier standing by, said, here is Needham Maynard, of Framingham, Mass., and he is just the man for your aid. General Warren at once offered Maynard the position, and upon his acceptance of the same, he was immediately appointed, and entered upon his duties. In the fight that followed, Mr. Maynard carried General Warren's commands to the colonels and received messages from them to their Commander-in-Chief, going back and forth along the line of the rail fence till General Warren was shot. With the help of others Mr. Maynard took up the dying general, and removed him to the spot where he breathed his last.‡

* Captain Needham Maynard's name first appears upon the records of Fitzwilliam under date of March 15th, 1787, when he bid off the contract for building a pound in this town for fourteen pounds sterling. He was admitted to the church here, September, 1786.

† Joseph Warren, M.D., an ardent patriot, was appointed a Major-General four days before the Bunker Hill battle, but had not been assigned to any command. To encourage the soldiers within the lines he appeared upon the field, June 17th, as a volunteer, and for this reason was able to accept the offer of leadership made to him by the colonels in command. His age was thirty-five years.

‡ This statement of Mr. Maynard, which is deemed perfectly reliable, has, it is understood, first appeared in print in the new History of Framingham, Mass., by Rev. J. H. Temple. This valuable and, as far as possible, exhaustive work has just been given to the public. We are indebted to Mr. Temple for the privilege of inserting in this history a portion of Mr. Maynard's testimony concerning the arrangements of the Bunker Hill battle.

In Congress March 14, 1776.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils or Committees of Safety of the United States, immediately to cause all persons to be disarmed within their respective Colonies, who are notoriously disaffected to the cause of America, or who have not associated and refuse to associate to defend by *Arms* the United Colonies against the hostile attempts of the British Fleet and Armies.

Extract from the minutes.

Charles Thompson Secretary.

Colony of New Hampshire.

Committee of Safety.

April 12. 1776.

To the Selectmen of Fitzwilliam

In order to carry the Resolve of the Continental Congress (just given) into execution, You are requested to desire all males above twenty one years of age (lunatics, idiots and negroes excepted) to sign the declaration on this paper, and when so done to make return thereof with the name or names of all who shall refuse to sign the same, to the General Assembly or Committee of Safety of this Colony.

M. Weare Chairman.

The declaration alluded to above, a copy of which was sent to the selectmen of every town in New Hampshire, was as follows :

In consequence of the above Resolution of the Continental Congress, and to show our determination in joining our brethren, in defending the lives, liberties, and properties of the inhabitants of the United Colonies :

We the Subscribers, do hereby solemnly engage and promise, that we will, to the utmost of our power, at the risk of our lives and fortunes, with *Arms*, oppose the hostile proceedings of the British Fleets and Armies against the United American Colonies.

All of the men in the neighboring town of Rindge signed this declaration, while in Marlborough five were found who were reported as unwilling to sign. Throughout the State of New Hampshire the great mass of the men were both willing and glad to give their names to this declaration, and this common pledge did much to strengthen the hands and encourage the hearts of the patriotic people throughout the thirteen colonies. This declaration was doubtless signed, nearly or quite universally, in Fitzwilliam, but the paper was lost, as it

cannot be found among similar documents in the office of the Secretary of State at Concord.

The Declaration of American Independence, July 4th, 1776, soon followed, and the long and expensive war to secure our liberty was entered upon and prosecuted with new earnestness.

Owing to the damaged condition of the Town Record Book it is often difficult to determine with certainty the precise time when the town adopted certain measures of great public importance during the progress of the Revolutionary War.

1776. At the annual meeting, Major Asa Brigham, Major John Farrar, and Deacon John Locke were chosen a "Committee of Safety" for the year, and it was voted to pay to Joseph Hemenway eighteen shillings for expenses and horse while attending the Provincial Congress. The town took no other action at this meeting respecting national affairs, which is not remarkable, since the Declaration of Independence was not made till nearly four months later, though, as it has been well observed, "in the beginning of 1776 the colonists were farmers, merchants, and mechanics, at its close soldiers."

1777. March 15th, the town

Voted and Chos a Comette of five men to agree with and hire Eight men for three year or durement the war with grate Britton to enter emedietely into the Contentental Service this Comitty to Proportion the service don by thos that have heartofore sarved in this ware acording to time and place whare they Performed thare sarvice, and to proportion the mony that they agree with the men for by a tax upon the town allowing Each mans poll to pay Eaquail alike and thar estats acording to what each man posesses.

Voted to Rase Mony to pay those that shall go into the Continental service, "the Cometey" "to make return of thare doings."

This committee appears to have reported at an adjourned meeting held in April. The eight men raised at this time are marked "F" in the list of revolutionary soldiers hereafter given. The Committee of Safety for this year consisted of Phinehas Hutchins, Asa Brigham, and John Mellen. The town chose Asa Brigham to represent this committee at a convention of the committees of safety of Cheshire County, to be held at Walpole in August.

1778, Deacon John Locke, Lieutenant John Angier, and Lieutenant Levi Brigham were the Committee of Safety. From the imperfect condition of the records it is impracticable to state particularly what action was taken by the town upon national affairs this year.

In 1779 the Committee of Safety consisted of Francis Fulam, Joseph Hemenway, and Thomas Tolman, and it was

Voted to raise men to go into the war for the future upon an Everage that is for every man to pay in Proportion to what he possesses. Voted and allowed Stephen Harris Twenty Two pounds for his service Last Summer in Rhode island.

In June, 1780, the town voted to raise twenty-five hundred pounds to defray town charges and to pay the soldiers in the Continental Army, and a month later five thousand pounds were raised to pay soldiers, and six thousand pounds to purchase the town's share of beef that the State was called upon to furnish for the Continental Army.

In January, 1781, another appropriation, for the same purposes, was made, amounting to two thousand four hundred and thirty-four pounds. The Committee of Safety consisted of Joseph Hemenway, Samuel Patrick, and Ensign (Calvin ?) Clark.

February 14th, 1781, the town appointed a committee of five men—viz., John Mellen, Joseph Nichols, Caleb Winch, Thomas Tolman, and (Calvin ?) Clark—"to agree with and hier our Cooto of Continentle shoulders for the term of three years."

February 19th the town "Voted and Excepted of what the Committee had dun in the hier of the Contenentle shoulders."

Also raised "twelve thousand Dollars for to pay our Contenentles at theair passing muster."

July 25th, 1781, the town "Voted to raise our Cotto of Beef for the army, which is 6834 pounds," and to give six dollars in hard money per hundred for said beef.

It was then voted to raise "410 hard dollars to pay for said beef."

Also "Voted that our Continental shoulders should have — Dollars in Rume of one thousand paper dollars."

Also "Voted to raise one hundred and twenty-six pounds to pay the Continental Shoulders their first year's pay."

November 5th, 1781, the town appropriated sixty dollars to pay the three months' men their hire.

Also appropriated forty-nine dollars to pay for nine gallons West India rum required by the army.

During the years 1782 and 1783 the town voted different amounts for the pay of its soldiers, but no record of the appropriation of large sums during these years can be found.

In 1781 New Hampshire undertook to raise thirteen hundred and fifty-four able-bodied, effective men, to serve in the Continental Army for three years, or during the war, but in most of the towns their quota was very imperfectly filled. In the notification respecting these deficiencies which was sent to all the towns concerned, in March, 1782, Fitzwilliam appears to have lacked two men.

In Volume XIII. of the Early Town Papers of New Hampshire, under the head "Richmond," the following appears :

"Stephen Harris was allowed £20—9—4 for Doctors' bills &c for his son Joseph, a soldier in Captain Jones' Company, Col. James Reeds' Regiment, who was left sick or wounded in the march from Ticonderoga to the Jerseys."

Joseph Harris was a son of Stephen Harris and belonged in this town, but as the Harris family resided near the Richmond line, it is probable that he was counted for a time upon the quota of Richmond rather than of Fitzwilliam. Such instances of enlistment in and military service for an adjoining town were not uncommon during the Revolutionary War.

In the same volume under the head "Surry" the following appears :

Mr Speaker Sir Whereas Col. Gideon of Exeter Was appointed a Collector of Beef (for the Continental Army) for 1780 and under him John Mellen Esqr for the County of Cheshire s^d Mellen did in the year 1780 collect 739^{lbs} of Beef more than he Recepted for to Col. Gideons and because s^d returns do not agree with the Return on the Book of the Treasurer cant credit the town of Surry for any part of the Beef which was delivered to s^d Mellen, therefore it is motioned that the House give

orders that the Treasurer receive said Receipts and Credit the town of Surry for the same, which the Treasurer is ready to do upon receiving the order.

Portsmouth, Feb ye 22. 1786.

Lemuel Holmes.

Surry, Capt. Giddings returned 2600 lbs of Beef.

There was a discrepancy between the beef accounts of the State Treasurer and the Collector in regard to the amount furnished by Surry, on account of which disagreement Surry had received no credit for beef furnished in 1781, and the object of this motion was to enable the accounts to be properly settled. Mr. Mellen was a man of large business capacity, but in 1780 the whole of the county of Cheshire was assigned to him as the Collector of nearly or quite two hundred thousand pounds of beef from thirty-two towns, as the county was then constituted. In discharging the duties of such an office, it is not surprising that he occasionally made a mistake. A little later Colonel Daniel Webster was associated with Mr. Mellen to visit every town in the county that was deficient in this matter of beef supply. In the next call for beef for the army, which was made in 1781, Cheshire County was required to furnish the amount of two hundred and thirty-seven thousand five hundred and forty-eight pounds. New Hampshire was called upon to furnish at this time one million, four hundred thousand pounds.

Much effort has been made, by consulting the town records, the rolls of the men from New Hampshire who were in the Revolutionary War, and the recorded and traditionary history of families and individuals, to give a complete list of the soldiers from Fitzwilliam who were in the Continental service, and, as far as possible, of the companies and regiments to which they belonged.

The attempt has been a difficult one, and probably not wholly successful, for the following reasons :

1. During all the earlier years of the war the regiments were designated, not by numbers as now, but by the names of their colonels ; and the companies were known in like manner by the names of their captains, so that, with a change of the higher officers for any reason, it became extremely difficult

to learn the position or follow the fortunes of any individual soldier.

2. The men were frequently transferred from one company or regiment to another, and companies were often detached from their regiments for some special service, and, thus scattered, were never reunited.

3. The rolls were often kept on detached sheets of paper rather than in books, and these papers were easily mislaid or lost. In some cases names are spelled so differently as to make the identification difficult.

MEN FROM FITZWILLIAM WHO SERVED IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

Explanations.

The names that appear upon the Revolutionary rolls, published by the State, are printed in Roman type; those obtained from other sources are in italics. The other sources are stated in the proper places. In a few cases where the other sources make the identification more satisfactory names are given in *italics*, though found upon the Revolutionary rolls. These rolls, in most cases, do not give the soldier's place of residence, but where they do, the names are printed in LARGE CAPITALS. The names of those who are well known as belonging to Fitzwilliam are given in SMALL CAPITALS. The names of such as have been recognized as belonging to this town by identity of name and other concurring evidence are given in This Type.

References.

- A. In the battle of Bunker Hill. Of these Zadock Dodge was in Captain Marey's company, Hinds Reed was in Captain Hinds's company, the others were in Captain Whitcomb's company, all in the regiment of Colonel James Reed. Twenty-three in number.
- B. In Captain Joseph Parker's company; joined the northern army at Ticonderoga. Mustered in July 18th, 1776. Five in number.

- C. In Captain Abijah Smith's company, for New York. Mustered, September 21st, 1776. Four in number.
- D. In Massachusetts regiments as stated, in 1775 and 1776. Five in number.
- E. In expedition against Canada under Colonel Benedict Arnold. All but Joseph Potter were in Captain Ward's company. Seven in number.
- F. In 1777 Fitzwilliam returned eight men for three years, or the war. James Reed, Jr., was returned as from Jaffrey, but belonged in Fitzwilliam. Nine men in all.
- Boynton, Squire, and the two Dodges were in Captain Clayes' company, and the Burbees in Captain Blodgett's company, all in Colonel Hale's regiment. Boynton and the Dodges continued in the company and regiment when Colonel Reid was in command. The Burbees were transferred to the southern army.
- G. In Captain Josiah Brown's company for Ticonderoga, N. Y. Marched, May 6th, 1777. Three men. John Chamberlain was second lieutenant in Captain Scott's company. Four men in all ; service forty-two days.
- H. To reinforce the garrison at Ticonderoga on the alarm of June, 1777. In Captain John Mellen's company, which marched from Fitzwilliam and towns adjacent, twenty-four men. Silas Angier went in Captain Drury's company. Twenty-five men in all. Little or no actual service fell to their lot.
- I. In Colonel Nichols's regiment at the battles of Bennington and Stillwater. Of the eight men in the list, Foster was in Captain Parker's company, Starkey and Wilson in Captain Wright's company, and the others in Captain Salmon Stone's company. Captain Stone belonged to Rindge, and his company marched, July 21st, 1777. Their time of service was two months and five days. Ebenezer Potter was a corporal in Captain Stone's company, and it was at this time that his famous capture of the Hessians was made.
- In the battle of Bennington the American forces numbered about seventeen hundred and fifty, and of these New Hampshire furnished not far from one thousand, Vermont about

five hundred, and Western Massachusetts two hundred and fifty; and it was just before this battle that General Stark made the harangue to his troops which has become historical.

Now, my men, yonder are the Hessians. They were bought for seven pounds tennence a man. Are you worth more? Prove it. To-night the American flag floats over yonder hill or Molly Stark sleeps a widow.

- J. In Colonel Moore's regiment to join the army at Saratoga Captain Lewis's company marched from Marlborough in September, 1777. Samuel Kendall held the office of ensign. Time of service twenty-seven days; three men. Silas Angier went in Captain Drury's company. Time of service twenty-eight days; total, four men.
- K. In Colonel Enoch Hale's regiment, August, 1778, for service in Rhode Island. John Mellen was quartermaster on Colonel Hale's staff. Nine men went in Captain James Lewis's company, John Angier serving as lieutenant. Time of service twenty-three days. Daniel Gould went in another company and served twenty-four days; total, eleven men.
- L. Other soldiers in Rhode Island service in 1778 and 1779. Sylvanus Reed was adjutant on Colonel Peabody's staff. Four men; service as stated in the list.
- M. Enlisted for the war, July 15th, 1779. Two men.
- N. Enlisted, July, 1780, as by memorandum in the town records. Winch, Harris, and Rice enlisted for six months and served five months and a half. Winch received fifteen pounds bounty, and Harris and Rice each twelve pounds. The others enlisted for three months and served three months and a half. Brigham received nine pounds bounty, and the others eight pounds. Ten men in all.
- O. Enlisted in 1781 and 1782. Rice and Hadley enlisted in 1781 for three months. Rice received six pounds bounty and Hadley probably the same. Patrick enlisted in 1782, and it does not appear what bounty he had. All the others enlisted in 1781 for three years, or the war, and each received twenty pounds bounty. In a letter to the selectmen of Fitzwilliam in 1822, Rice states the bounty he received at

this time at twenty dollars. All these bounties were paid in specie. Nine men in all.

P. Other items from the published Revolutionary rolls. Service as entered to each man. Five men.

Q. Died in the service. From Rev. Mr. Brigham's list of deaths in the church records: Nine men. At least two others died in the service, Joseph Fassett and Captain Elijah Clays.

Summary of men as stated, one hundred and forty-four.

As several enlisted and served more than once, the number of different persons in the list is eighty-eight.

NAMES.	Service.
Lieut. JOHN ANGIER.....	B H K. was Serg't in Capt. Parker's Co and Lieut. in Capt. Lewis' Co
Silas Angier	G H J
EDWARD ARNOLD.....	A E
SOLOMON BADCOCK.....	H
ABNER BALL.....	D I In Capt Oliver Capron's Co. Col. Doolittle's (Mass) Reg. at Winter Hill Mass Oct 1775
JOHN BARKER	A E F The last service was in Col. Alden's (Mass) Reg.
Serg't AMOS BOYNTON.....	A E F Serg't in both Capt Whitcomb's and Capt Clays' Cos.
Job Boynton.....	H
Alpheus Brigham.....	C
ASA BRIGHAM.....	H J
Leonard Brigham.....	B
Lyman Brigham.....	N
STEPHEN BRIGHAM.....	A
PETER BURBEE.....	F Q. Died June 1778 at Philadelphia age 49 ? yrs
PETER BURBEE JR.....	F Q d Aug 1778 at Philadelphia age 17 ? yrs
Lieut JOHN CHAMBERLAIN.....	D G In Capt W ^m Warner's Co Col J Whitney's (Mass) Reg. Dec 1776
Capt ELIJAH CLAYES.....	A } 1st. Lieut in Capt Whitcomb's Co at Bunker Hill, prom. Capt. Nov 17. 1776 when Col Nathan Hale commanded the Reg. Was in command of the Reg. after Col. Hale was taken prisoner. Wounded in battle from which he d. Nov 15. 1779

NAMES.	Service.
Jesse Cheney.....	A
JOHN DODGE	F
Serg't ZADOCK DODGE	A F Serg't in Capt Clays' Co
MOSES DRURY.....	H
ABEL ESTABROOK	A C G H
<i>Paul Farnsworth</i>	N
JOHN FARRAR.....	O Son of Maj John Farrar
Serg't Joseph Farrar.....	G H J L Served 3 m 7 ds in R. I. in 1778 as Serg't
William Farrar	J
JOSEPH FASSETT.....	A E M Deserted at Battle of Bunker Hill—Is said to have died in the service—Is sup- posed to have been a nephew of Dea. John Fassett
<i>Enoch Foster</i>	N
JAMES FOSTER	I O
Joseph Foster	D In Lt. Perkin's Co Col. Grid- ley's (Mass) Reg. at Winter Hill Sept 1775
<i>Rufus Freeman</i>	N
FRANCIS FULLAM.....	B
DANIEL GOULD.....	K L Served 24 days in 1778 and 6 m 7 ds in 1779-80
DANIEL GOULD JR.....	O
<i>Samuel Graves</i>	Q Dec 20, 1776 found dead in the woods between Charles- town N H and Ticonderoga N. Y.
<i>Peter Hadley</i>	O
John Harrington.....	H K
JOSHUA HARRINGTON.....	A H K
BENJAMIN HARRIS.....	L N Served 6 m 26 ds in R. I.
Joseph Harris	P in Col Reid's Regt 3d Co
STEPHEN HARRIS	H P In service in Rhode Island in 1778. In Capt Ephraim Stone's Co. under Maj. Benjamin Whitcomb in 1780
Joseph Hemenway.....	H
PHINEAS HUTCHINS.....	H
Ensign SAMUEL KENDALL.....	H J
Joseph Kneeland.....	A
Amos Knight	C
Jonas Knight.....	K
John Lock	H
DANIEL MELLEN.....	H
Capt JOHN MELLEN.....	H K
EZEKIEL MIXER.....	B H
Serg't <i>Nathan Mixer</i>	H I Q promoted sergeant July 21, 1777 d Aug 16 1777 killed in battle of Bennington

NAMES.	Service.
JOSEPH MUZZEY.....	M
William Nurse.....	H K
Joseph Nurse.....	H
SAMUEL OSBORN.....	K
RUFUS PATRICK.....	O mustered July 15, 1782
<i>Samuel Patrick</i>	H N
<i>David Perry</i>	B Q d Sept 20. 1776 at Mt Independence In Capt Daniel Barnes' Co, Col Ward's Reg.
HENRY PIDGE.....	D Page? (Mass) Reg. Sept 1775
<i>Nathan Platts</i>	Q d July 1776 at Crown Point
Serg't EBENEZER POTTER.....	H I Corporal in Capt Stone's Co: serg't in Capt. Mellen's Co
Capt. JOSEPH POTTER.....	A E later a Captain. com'd 2d Lieut. Nov 7. 1776. promoted quartermaster Aug 23. 1778
HINDS REED.....	A
Col JAMES REED.....	A
JAMES REED JR.....	F
SYLVANUS REED.....	A L Serg't in Capt Whitcomb's Co at battle of Bunker Hill. Adjutant in Col. Peabody's Reg. Jan. 6. 1778.
ABRAHAM RICE.....	N O Enlisted for 6 mo's in 1780 and 3 mo's in 1781—was 16 yrs old at first enlistment
Ensign <i>Jonas Rice</i>	Q d July 25. 1776 at Fort George
STEPHEN RICHARDSON...	O P Enlisted Apr 1. 1777 for 3 years in Capt William Ellis' Co: Col. Scammell's Reg.—Enlisted July 5 1780 in Capt Joseph Kidder's Co. Col. Nichols' Reg. for West Point N. Y. Served 3 m 18 days
<i>Joseph Scott</i>	N
DANIEL SQUIRE.....	F
Peter Starkey.....	I
<i>Samuel Stone</i>	P was in Capt Peter Page's Co, Col Nichols' Reg. for West Point N. Y. Service at this time July 6. 1780 to Oct 4. 1780
BENJAMIN TOLMAN.....	A I K
EBENEZER TOLMAN.....	A E
William Tolman.....	A
Samuel Treadwell.....	A
<i>Edmund Troubridge</i>	Q d Dec 26. 1776 in New Jersey

NAMES.	Service.
Corp. LUTHER TROWBRIDGE....	A E
<i>Moses Ware</i>	Q d. Oct 1. 1776 at Ticonderoga
STEPHEN WHITE	N O At first enlistment was
	16 years old.
JOHN WHITNEY.....	A C F H. Was for a time in
	Col. Bigelow's (Mass) Reg.
John Whitney 2d.....	A
Samuel Wilson.....	A I P In Capt Ephraim Stone's
	Co. under Maj. Benjamin
	Whitcomb in 1780
Joseph Winch.....	O Enlisted Mar, 21. 1781
SAMUEL WINCH	I K N
Corp. WILLIAM WITHINGTON...	D H K In Capt William War-
	ner's Co. Col. J. Whitney's
	(Mass) Reg Dec 1776

It is stated that Ebenezer Boutelle, Hezekiah Scott, Humphrey Silk and Caleb Winch served in the Revolutionary Army from Fitzwilliam, but they have not yet been identified in the Revolutionary Rolls, and the traditions concerning them are not sufficiently definite to justify placing their names in the foregoing list.

Few of the particular accounts and vouchers appertaining to the expenses of Fitzwilliam in the Revolutionary War can now be found, and probably most of them were destroyed by fire in 1785, but the originals of the following have been recovered among a mass of miscellaneous papers at the State House.

State of New Hampshire
to the Selectmen of Fitzwilliam Dr.

1779, July 18. To cash paid Daniel Gould a soldier inlisted in Col. Mooney's Regiment for the defence of Rhode Island, six months. Bounty £30. Travel 90 miles to Providence £9. pr Rec^d £39-0-0. Received an order on the Treasurer for Thirty Nine pounds. pr John Mellen one of the Selectmen.

State of New Hampshire

to the Selectmen of Fitzwilliam Dr.

1779, July. To cash paid Joseph Fassett & Joseph Muzzey, two soldiers inlisted in the Continental Army for one year.

State Bounty £60 each. £120.

Received an order on the Treasurer for One Hundred and twenty pounds.

per John Mellen, one of the Selectmen.

An account of Town Bounties paid by the Town of Fitzwilliam to the following soldiers inlisted in the Continental Army for three years. Viz

1777 Feb.	Amos Boynton Capt. Claves Co.	£24. 0. 0.
"	Zadock Dodge Do.	30.
"	John Dodge "	24.
"	Peter Barbe [Burbee] 14. 8. 0.	
1778	Do. 9. 12. 0.	24.
1777	Peter Barbe, Jun. 14. 8. 0.	
1778	Do. 9. 12. 0.	24.
	Daniel Squire Capt. Clave's Co.	0. 0. 0.

Fitzwilliam, Jan. 1780. The above soldiers inlisted for the Town of Fitzwilliam, and were paid the several sums set against their names. Attest John Mellen Selectman.

Sworn to at Exeter March 9, 1780 before James Belton.

To Mr. Thompson, Secretary for the Honorable Assembly of New Hampshire, Greeting. Agreeable to the order of Court April 7. 1781 Requiring of us to make a return of our Soldiers in the Continental Army by the 10th of June next, which soldiers' names are as follows viz. John Barker and Joseph Fassett engaged during the War some years ago.

The names of those ingaged last March for the term of three years next ensuing the date are as follows viz. Stephen Richardson, John Farrar, Stephen White, Daniel Gould jr. and James Foster which have been mustered before the Superintendent at Keene soon after their engagements, as will be made to appear to you by his returns.

Joseph Nichols, Levi Brigham, Josiah Hartwell, Selectmen For Fitz William.

Fitzwilliam, May the 28. 1781.

Fitzwilliam.

- 1 John Barker never joined.
 - 2 Joseph Fassett Deserted 1780.
 - 3 Stephen Richardson Must. Feb. 23. 1781.
 - 4 John Farrar " April 3 "
 - 5 Stephen White " Feb. 27. "
 - 6 Daniel Gould Jr. " " 23 "
 - 7 James Foster " " " "
 - 8 Rufus Patrick July 15. 1782 Must. by B. Ellis.
- Certified Nov. 7. 1785.

From Town Accounts. Fitzwilliam.

Amos Boynton	£21—16—10
Zadock Dodge	18—12
John Dodge	14—17—7
Peter Burbee	10—16—2
Peter Burbee Jr.	10—16—2 £76—18—9

July 16. 1782. Gave a certificate to James Reed per order from the Selectmen.

Fitzwilliam Account.

Pay Roll to Cambridge in 1775	£32—19
Do to Royalton " 1780	5—11—6
	<hr/>
	£38—10—6.

As the Continental currency depreciated in value, the towns to some extent attempted to compensate the soldiers for the reduction. After a period of service the depreciation in Amos Boynton's pay amounted to two hundred and fifty pounds, four shillings and threepence; in that of Zadok Dodge as private and sergeant, two hundred and eight pounds; in John Dodge's, one hundred and seventy-nine pounds.

In Colonel Hale's regiment, at a later period, Benjamin Harris, Samuel Winch, and Abraham Rice are reported. These three men appear to have enlisted in this regiment June 28th, 1780, and to have been discharged December 4th of the same year. They were allowed nine days' travel "to come home." Time of service about five and one half months each. Pay, seven hundred and forty-one pounds nine shillings each. Allowed for blankets, three hundred and thirty-five pounds each. Travel out ninety-five miles, allowed for it fifty-seven pounds. Advanced by the State fifty-seven pounds each. Due when discharged about eleven hundred pounds each. (This was when the currency was greatly depreciated.)

March 10th, 1780, the State of New Hampshire made provision to pay non-commissioned officers who served three years five hundred dollars each "toward depreciation," and privates four hundred dollars each for the same term of service.

Account of Fitzwilliam for Bounties.

Jan. 5. Baldwin's Regiment.....	7 men in 1776	£22.6s
Feb. 7. Continental soldiers.....	8 " " 1777	141.12
" 19. Stark's Brigade.....	3 " " "	10.5
July 10. Continental Soldiers.....	2 " " 1779	24.
" 23. Nichols' Reg.....	7 " " 1780	57.
" 21. New Levies.....	3 " " "	39.
" 15. Continental service.....	5 " " 1781	506.
" 17 " " ".....	1 " " 1782	60.

For 36 men.

Total £860—3—

It is probable that this account includes only those who enlisted for three years or the war. From a comparison of the dates, and other particulars, it would seem that some of these soldiers cannot be identified with any whose names are given in the preceding list. The following identifications, however, are doubtless correct. The eight under date February 7th, 1777, are those marked F in the list, excepting James Reed, Jr. The two of July 10th, 1779, are marked M. The six in 1781 and 1782 are included in those marked O in the list. These bounties are all evidently stated on a specie basis.

"Quarter Master Isaac Frye's Return. Col. Reed's Reg. account of rations issued each 3 or 4 days from July 1. to Aug. 4. 1775.

549—545—559—558—559—532—545—547—547—537,"

showing a remarkable uniformity in numbers. At the same time in the colonel's mess ten were always present, in the other messes fifteen once, sixteen on all the other days.

In the report of deserters, July 11th, 1776, there are given their names, size, age, complexion, the Government to which they belonged, and the names of the captains of the companies from which they deserted.

Stephen Harris was in service in Rhode Island. In March, 1779, the town voted "to pay Stephen Harris for Continental Service," and at the same meeting "allowed 22 pounds paid to Stephen Harris last summer for his services in Rhode Island."

Fitzwilliam April y^e 20th 1781.

Mr. Treasurer Winch. Please to pay Nathaniel Muzzey Seventeen Hundred and seventy pounds five shillings and Six pence which we find due to him on accompt of his son's years' service (allowing him Ninety for one).

Joseph Nichols } Selectmen of
Josiah Hartwell } Fitzwilliam.

Upon the back of this order there are four receipts, for partial payment, the last of which is as follows :

Fitzwilliam August the 10 ye 1782. Receivd of the within order, the sum of four pounds sixteen shillings of Silver Money. I say, received By me.

Nathaniel Muzzey.

Many of the old receipts observed this form, repeating the receipt with the emphatic "I say."

The order above shows how alarmingly great the depreciation of the currency was in 1781.

In the year 1775 General Arnold was dispatched from the vicinity of Boston up the Kennebec River, and across what is now the State of Maine, with the hope of taking Quebec by surprise. Among his soldiers was Ebenezer Potter, of Fitzwilliam. The expedition was a miserable failure. Arnold's troops suffered terribly from hunger and fatigue, and many of them died from starvation and exposure. Mr. Potter endured fifteen days' hard marching with no food but a part of a partridge and a quarter of a red squirrel. An Englishman among Arnold's soldiers deserted, and revealed the plans of the division to which Mr. Potter belonged, and the result was that he and his companions were captured, and remained prisoners, under the hardest experience, till the spring following. Other men from Fitzwilliam were in the same expedition, viz., Luther Trowbridge, age twenty, Cordwainer; Ebenezer Tolman, age twenty-seven, Carpenter; Edward Arnold, age twenty-four; Amos Boynton, age thirty-three; John Barker, age nineteen, and Joseph Fassett, age nineteen. Of the experience of these we have no record.

A number of men who served in the Revolutionary War from other towns and States became, soon after its close, residents of Fitzwilliam, and identified at once with all its interests, among whom were Judge Nahum Parker, from Shrewsbury, Joseph Forristall, of Holliston, Samuel Patch, of Stow, Captain Needham Maynard, of Framingham, each of Massachusetts, Matthias Felton, and others. The names of such persons appear in a number of cases upon the list of Fitzwilliam pensioners.

Rev. John Sabin in his historical lecture delivered in 1836, said,

though the War ended 54 years ago yet this town has now in it 18 pensioners.

In 1842, he said, in a revised lecture,

this band is much diminished now though four or five are left and show how little strength can combat with time.

In a list of pensioners in 1840, found in the public library of Natick, Mass., these ten names appear under the head

Fitzwilliam N. H.

For Revolutionary or Military Service.

Names of Pensioners.	Age.	Heads of Families.
Leonard Colburn.....	44	.....Leonard Colburn.
Matthias Felton.....	84	.....Matthias Felton.
Joel Whitney.....	80	.....Benjamin B. Morse.
Joel Miles.....	84	.....Noah Miles.
Ebenezer Potter.....	91	.....Ebenezer Potter, Jr.
John Shirley.....	85	.....Henry Shirley.
Nathan Smith.....	76	.....Nathan Smith.
Artemas Wilson.....	83	.....Benjamin Wilson.
Stephen White.....	78	.....Silas White.
Sarah Whitney.....	92	.....David Whitney.

The first on this list, Leonard Colburn, served in the War of 1812-14. The other nine plainly received pensions for service, either personally or by a husband, in the Revolutionary War. Six of the ten above-named appear to have served upon the quotas of other towns, as their names do not appear upon the lists of Fitzwilliam soldiers. Seven of the ten were, in 1840, doubtless in the families of their children or other relatives.

The following additional names are from other sources, principally from a list of pensioners found with the papers of Dr. Cummings :

Oliver Damon	Nahum Parker
Benoni Foster	Nathaniel Phillips
Luna Foster	Samuel Stone

Benoni Foster probably served in the War of 1812, and the others in the Revolutionary War. None of these were residents of Fitzwilliam when they performed the service for which they received the pension.

Elijah Clays (or Cloyes), as appears in this record of service, entered the army at a very early date, and was commissioned as a captain November 7th, 1776. He is reported in the Revolutionary Rolls as dead "of wounds" some time in November, 1779. After the close of the war his widow presented the following petition :

The Hon^e Counsel and House of Representatives of the State of New Hampshire in Geeneral Court Assembled.

The Humble petition of Abigail Clays, widow of the late Captain Elijah Clays deceased of the 2^d Regiment of the New Hampshire Line. Urged by her distressed situation ; begs your attention : as she is left with a family of small children without any other means of Subsistence but her own Industry, for there support. Impelled by these Circumstances and the Horrid Idea of want, being fully impressed that the Honorable Body before (whom) this her petition will be laid, supported by there natural feelings as well as Justice and Humanity towards those in distress ; will exert every nerve for so desirable an end ; as to soften as far as in their power the distress incident to the widows and Fatherless : and Consequently extend their generosity towards her by a grant of half pay agreeable to an Act of Congress of May 1778 in such cases made and provided and renewed and extended the 24th of August 1780 which will enable her to bring up her Children in some degree of decency and live above contempt, resting assured of your strict attention to this her Petition.

Your Petitioner As in duty bound shall forever pray.

Abigal Clays.

It is plain that the State endeavored to make reasonable compensation for the depreciation of the currency in which the soldiers were paid. Samuel Kendall, who presented the following petition in behalf of Mr. Reed, was representative to the Legislature or "General Assembly" at the time.

To the General Assembly of the State of New Hampshire now sitting at Portsmouth.

Humbly Shews. Sylvanus Reed of Fitzwilliam in the s^d State. That he served as adjutant of a Battalion of Troops raised in this State for the defence of the New England states &c and Commanded by Lieut Col^o Stephen Peabody Esqr as appears by the Commission herewith presented. That your Petitioner is informed some

allowance has been made those Officers on acc't of the Depreciating of the money they were paid in. Your Petitioner therefore humbly **prays** that your Honors will order such Depreciation to be paid to your Petitioner as is Customary in Such Cases. And as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Dated Feb'y^e 2^d 1786

Samuel Kendall
in behalf of the Petitioner.

This petition was granted February 21st, 1786.

Mrs. Clays received a captain's half-pay for seven years, receiving at one time the pay for five years, and afterward for the other two years. The half-pay was seventy-two pounds a year, or two hundred and forty dollars, at six shillings to the dollar.

General Reed was paid eleven hundred and sixty-two pounds, ten shillings in 1786, but it cannot be stated whether it was all on account of half-pay, or whether a part of the payment was an allowance for depreciation.

THE WAR OF 1812-14.

Early in the present century the great mass of our countrymen were far from being satisfied with the course of Great Britain relative to many international matters, but in New England, generally, the condition of affairs was not regarded as sufficiently serious to justify the declaration of war on the part of our Government. For this reason what is called "the War of 1812" was, throughout all this region, extremely unpopular, and while the leading men were disposed to avoid most studiously everything approaching treasonable acts, the determination was general to bring the struggle to an end as soon as it could be done in a constitutional manner.

September 14th, 1812, the town chose Elder Arunah Allen, Thomas Stratton, and Phineas Reed, Esq., as delegates to a county convention, the object of which was to consult and devise measures proper to be pursued under the existing circumstances. All the votes of the town when these delegates were appointed were most carefully worded, and give no indication of a rebellious spirit.

At a town meeting held July 20th, 1812, the principal article in the warrant was

To see what additional wages the town will give to the soldiers who are detached from said town provided they are called into actual service, and to act thereon as they shall think proper ;

and it was

Voted to make up to each drafted Soldier ten dollars per month if called into actual service, including what each man shall receive from the government.

At that time volunteers were numerous, and it does not appear that any formal call for troops had been issued.

More than two years later, viz., October 3d, 1814, the town

Voted and granted that (to) each soldier detached from the militia of this town, or that may be detached before the next annual meeting shall be made up the sum of fifteen dollars, including what they may receive from the State.

This meeting followed a call for troops for the defence of Portsmouth, but the records do not mention the number required from Fitzwilliam or how they were raised. Receipts on file give us the names of the Fitzwilliam men who were in the service of the Government as follows :

Daniel Forristall, Jotham Wood, J. Taylor, Levi Streeter, John Stone, Second, Richard Kimball, Jr., William Farrar, Samuel Graves, David Graves, John Twitchell, S. Redfield, Alvah Godding, Calvin Chase, John Bennett, Elisha Drurey, Jonas Pushee. Sixteen men. And it is believed this is the full number that went from this town. Kimball and Pushee received six dollars each, advanced pay, the others each four dollars. Six of the receipts are dated September 15th, 1814, while the date of ten others is September 30th, 1814. The soldiers from this part of the State were under the command of Captain Marsh, of Chesterfield, and Daniel Forristall of this town was a lieutenant in the company. A copy of Mr. Forristall's receipt is given.

Fitzwilliam Sept. 30. 1814.

Recd of the Town of Fitzwilliam four dollars as advanced pay for my service as a detached Officer by the Governor of the State of New Hampshire.

Daniel Forristall.

Mr. Redfield receipted not only for his advanced pay, but also for his accoutrements, as follows :

Fitzwilliam Sept the 15. 1814.

This day received one gun and Banent cartrage Box, Scabbord and Belt of the Town of Fitzwilliam which I promis to return to said town in three months if I return if not as soon as I do return if not deprived of them before I can return received by me

S. Redfield.

CHAPTER XI.

TOWN OFFICERS—APPROPRIATIONS—VOTERS.

Town Officers, 1773-1886—Votes for state Executive, 1781-1886—Town Appropriations—Financial Summary—Funding the Town Debt—Check Lists—For List of Superintending School Committees see Chapter XIII., Educational.

IN the last century, as well as in the early part of the present, the constable was an officer of considerable importance, filling, perhaps, a more prominent position than the deputy sheriff of the present day, except that his powers did not extend beyond the limits of the town. Two or three constables were generally chosen at each annual meeting, but as the records do not show who qualified and who did not, no list of them is here given. The collector was usually one of the persons chosen, and doubtless he always qualified.

TREASURERS.

1773.	Unknown.	1841-42.	Daniel Spaulding.
1774-76.	John Mellen.	1843-47.	John Kimball.
1777.	Asa Brigham.	1848-49.	John Wood.
1778-80.	Samuel Patrick.	1850-51.	Milton Chaplin.
1781.	Caleb Winch.	1852.	Nelson Howe.
1782-83.	Samuel Patrick.	1853.	Daniel Spaulding.
1784.	Sylvanus Reed.	1854.	Jonathan S. Adams.
1785.	Abner Stone.	1855.	Thomas W. Whittemore.
1786-89.	Sylvanus Reed.	1856.	Charles C. Carter.
1790.	Nathan Townsend.	1857.	Aaron N. Townsend.
1791-94.	John Fassett.	1858-59.	Josiah E. Carter.
1795-1824.	Samuel Griffin.	1860.	Curtis R. Crowell.
1825.	John J. Allen.	1861-62.	Charles C. Carter.
1826.	Dexter Whittemore.	1863-65.	Amos A. Parker.
1827-35.	Robinson Perkins.	1866-86.	John M. Parker.
1836-38.	Daniel Spaulding.	1887.	D. W. Firmin.
1839-40.	Dexter Whittemore.		

TOWN OFFICERS.

	MODERATORS.	TOWN CLERKS.	REPRESENTATIVES.
1773		James Reed.	
1774	James Reed.	"	
1775	Joseph Hemenway.	John Locke.	Rev. Benj. Brigham.
1776	Maj. John Farrar.	Maj. John Farrar.	†
1777	Maj. Asa Brigham.	John Mellen.	†
1778	Capt. John Mellen.	Samuel Patrick.	Capt. John Mellen.
1779	"	"	John Mellen, Esq.
1780	"	"	
1781	"	"	Abner Stone.
1782	"	"	Joseph Nichols.
1783	"	"	Elisha Whitcomb.
1784	Lieut. Caleb Winch.	"	Samuel Kendall.
1785	Abner Stone.	Sylvanus Reed.	"
1786	Sam. Kendall, Esq.	"	"
1787	"	Isaac Moors Farwell.	Lieut. Caleb Winch.
1788	Dea. John Locke.	"	"
1789	Col. Sylvanus Reed.	* "	Abner Stone.
1790	"	Sylvanus Reed.	"
1791	Abner Stone.	"	"
1792	Samuel Kendall.	"	"
1793	"	"	Nahum Parker.
1794	"	P. C. Grosvener.	"
1795	Nahum Parker.	Thomas Goldsmith.	"
1796	"	"	"
1797	"	"	"
1798	"	"	"
1799	"	Dr. Luke Lincoln.	"
1800	"	Thomas Goldsmith.	"
1801	"	"	"
1802	"	"	"
1803	"	"	"
1804	Dea. Oliver Damon.	"	Phinehas Reed.
1805	Nahum Parker.	"	"
1806	"	"	Nahum Parker.
1807	"	"	Erasmus Butterfield.
1808	Jonas Robeson.	"	Thomas Stratton.
1809	Dea. Oliver Damon.	Moses Van Doorn.	"
1810	"	"	"
1811	"	"	"
1812	"	"	Samuel Griffin.
1813	"	"	"
1814	Lt. Charles Bowker.	"	"
1815	L. Chapman, Esq.	"	"
1816	"	"	L. Chapman, Esq.
1817	Hon. Nahum Parker.	John Whittemore.	"
1818	"	"	Samuel Griffin.
1819	"	"	Jonas Robeson.
1820	"	"	Dr. T. Richardson.
1821	"	Luke B. Richardson.	Levi Chamberlain.

TOWN OFFICERS.

SELECTMEN.

- 1773 John Mellen, Edward Kendall, Joseph Grow.
- 1774 James Reed, John Mellen, Levi Brigham.
- 1775 John Mellen, Levi Brigham, John Locke.
- 1776 John Mellen, Asa Brigham, Levi Brigham.
- 1777 John Mellen, John Locke, Samuel Patrick.
- 1778 John Mellen, Levi Brigham, John Fassett.
- 1779 John Mellen, Caleb Winch, Joseph Brown.
- 1780 * Caleb Winch, Ephraim Boynton, Nathan Townsend.
- 1781 Joseph Nichols, Levi Brigham, Josiah Hartwell.
- 1782 Josiah Hartwell, Samuel Kendall, Sylvanus Reed.
- 1783 Caleb Winch, Calvin Clark, Ephraim Boynton.
- 1784 Caleb Winch, Calvin Clark, Josiah Hartwell.
- 1785 John Fassett, Abner Stone, Abner Haskell.
- 1786 John Fassett, Abner Stone, Caleb Winch.
- 1787 Ephraim Boynton, James Brewer, Isaac Moors Farwell.
- 1788 Sylvanus Reed, Caleb Winch, Benjamin Wilson.
- 1789 Abner Stone, John Fassett, Stephen Brigham.
- 1790 Abner Stone, Nahum Parker, Abijah Richardson.
- 1791 Abner Stone, Nahum Parker, Matthias Felton.
- 1792 Abner Stone, Nahum Parker, Matthias Felton.
- 1793 Nahum Parker, Matthias Felton, Daniel Farrar.
- 1794 Caleb Winch, James Brewer, Jonas Gary.
- 1795 Caleb Winch, James Brewer, Jonas Gary.
- 1796 Caleb Winch, James Brewer, Jonas Gary.
- 1797 James Brewer, William Farrar, Thomas Goldsmith.
- 1798 James Brewer, Thomas Goldsmith, William Farrar.
- 1799 Caleb Winch, Oliver Damon, Abijah Richardson.
- 1800 Oliver Damon, James Brewer, Matthias Felton.
- 1801 Oliver Damon, James Brewer, Matthias Felton.
- 1802 Oliver Damon, Thomas Stratton, Nahum Howe.
- 1803 Oliver Damon, Nahum Howe, Arunah Allen.
- 1804 Oliver Damon, Arunah Allen, John White.
- 1805 Arunah Allen, John White, Joseph Brigham.
- 1806 Nahum Howe, Joseph Brigham, Charles Bowker.
- 1807 Nahum Howe, Joseph Brigham, Benjamin Eddy.
- 1808 Charles Bowker, Thomas Stratton, John Whittemore.
- 1809 Charles Bowker, Thomas Stratton, John Whittemore.
- 1810 Charles Bowker, Thomas Stratton, John Whittemore.
- 1811 Charles Bowker, Thomas Stratton, Joseph Brigham.
- 1812 Charles Bowker, Thomas Stratton, Joseph Brigham.
- 1813 Charles Bowker, Joseph Brigham, John Whittemore.
- 1814 Charles Bowker, Joseph Brigham, John Whittemore.
- 1815 Joseph Brigham, Matthias Felton, John J. Allen.
- 1816 Joseph Brigham, John Whittemore, John J. Allen.
- 1817 Joseph Brigham, John Whittemore, John J. Allen.
- 1818 Joseph Brigham, John J. Allen, David Stone.
- 1819 Joseph Brigham, John J. Allen, David Stone.
- 1820 John J. Allen, Robinson Perkins, Joel Hayden.
- 1821 John J. Allen, Robinson Perkins, Joel Hayden.

TOWN OFFICERS—(Continued).

	MODERATORS.	TOWN CLERKS.	REPRESENTATIVES.
1822	Hon. Nahum Parker.	Luke B. Richardson.	Levi Chamberlain.
1823	"	"	"
1824	"	"	"
1825	Levi Chamberlain.	"	"
1826	"	"	"
1827	"	Curtis Coolidge.	"
1828	"	"	"
1829	"	"	David Stone.
1830	"	"	"
1831	Nahum Parker.	"	Joseph Brigham.
1832	Levi Chamberlain.	"	"
1833	John Foster.	"	John J. Allen.
1834	"	"	"
1835	Ephraim Parker.	"	Daniel Spaulding.
1836	Daniel T. Hayden.	"	"
1837	"	"	Curtis Coolidge.
1838	Amos A. Parker.	"	"
1839	"	Jos. A. Penniman.	Amos A. Parker.
1840	"	"	"
1841	"	"	"
1842	"	Daniel Spaulding.	"
1843	"	"	"
1844	Calvin J. Parker.	John P. Sabin.	"
1845	"	* "	Rev. John Sabin.
1846	"	*Joel Hayden, Jr.	Amos A. Parker.
1847	A. A. Parker.	John J. Allen, Jr. }	Jonathan S. Adams.
1848	"	"	Rufus B. Phillips.
1849	Jonathan S. Adams.	"	Amos A. Parker.
1850	"	"	John J. Allen, Jr.
1851	"	"	"
1852	Amos A. Parker.	"	Jonathan S. Adams.
1853	Jonathan S. Adams.	"	"
1854	"	* "	Rufus B. Phillips.
1855	Amos A. Parker.	Aaron N. Townsend.	Asa S. Kendall.
1856	J. S. Adams.	"	John Kimball.
1857	"	P. S. Batcheller.	"
1858	"	"	John J. Allen, Jr.
1859	Silas Cummings.	*John J. Allen, Jr.	P. S. Batcheller.
1860	"	"	"
1861	J. S. Adams.	"	Josiah E. Carter.
1862	"	* "	"
1863	"	Joel Whittemore.	Daniel Whitcomb.
1864	"	"	"
1865	Silas Cummings.	"	George W. Cutting.
1866	John M. Parker.	"	"
1867	"	Ira Bailey.	William L. Gaylord.
1868	"	"	John N. Richardson.
1869	"	* "	"

TOWN OFFICERS—(Continued.)

1822	John J. Allen, Robinson Perkins, Joel Hayden.
1823	John J. Allen, Robinson Perkins, Joel Hayden.
1824	David Stone, William F. Perry, Samuel Felch.
1825	David Stone, William F. Perry, Samuel Felch.
1826	David Stone, John J. Allen, Joseph Brigham.
1827	David Stone, John J. Allen, Joseph Brigham.
1828	David Stone, John J. Allen, Joseph Brigham.
1829	John J. Allen, Joseph Brigham, Daniel Spaulding.
1830	Joseph Brigham, Daniel Spaulding, Samuel Felch.
1831	Daniel Spaulding, Samuel Felch, Hyman Bent.
1832	Daniel Spaulding, John J. Allen, Hyman Bent.
1833	Daniel Spaulding, Thaddeus Cummings, Rufus B. Phillips.
1834	Daniel Spaulding, Thaddeus Cummings, Rufus B. Phillips.
1835	Thaddeus Cummings, John J. Allen, John Cobleigh.
1836	Thaddeus Cummings, John J. Allen, John Cobleigh.
1837	John Cobleigh, Daniel T. Hayden, Jonathan S. Adams.
1838	Daniel T. Hayden, Jonathan S. Adams, Levi Harris.
1839	Jonathan S. Adams, Levi Harris, Reuben Pratt.
1840	Jonathan S. Adams, Levi Harris, Reuben Pratt.
1841	Dexter Whittemore, George W. Bryant, Henry Shirley.
1842	† Dexter Whittemore, Henry Shirley, Charles Bigelow.
1843	Jonathan S. Adams, Levi Harris, Joseph A. Penniman.
1844	Joseph A. Penniman, Henry Shirley, Nelson Howe.
1845	Amos A. Parker, Henry Shirley, George W. Bryant.
1846	Amos A. Parker, Henry Shirley, Milton Chaplin.
1847	Dexter Whittemore, Milton Chaplin, Levi Harris.
1848	Dexter Whittemore, Milton Chaplin, Amos A. Parker.
1849	Amos A. Parker, Elijah Bowker, Reuben B. Pratt.
1850	Amos A. Parker, Levi Harris, Henry Shirley.
1851	David Stowell, Reuben Angier, Elijah Bowker.
1852	David Stowell, Reuben Angier, Elijah Bowker.
1853	David Stowell, Reuben Angier, Elijah Bowker.
1854	Reuben Angier, Amos A. Parker, Samuel Kendall.
1855	Reuben Angier, Samuel Kendall, John Whittemore, Jr.
1856	Amos A. Parker, David Perry, Artemas Stone, Jr.
1857	Jonathan S. Adams, Joel Howe, Daniel Whitcomb.
1858	Daniel Whitcomb, Reuben Angier, William Bent.
1859	Daniel Whitcomb, Reuben Angier, William Bent.
1860	Daniel Whitcomb, William Bent, Abner Gage.
1861	Daniel Whitcomb, George L. Stearns, William H. Shirley.
1862	Daniel Whitcomb, George L. Stearns, William H. Shirley.
1863	George L. Stearns, William H. Shirley, Milton Chaplin.
1864	George L. Stearns, William H. Shirley, Milton Chaplin.
1865	George L. Stearns, William H. Shirley, Joel Whittemore.
1866	George L. Stearns, William H. Shirley, Joel Whittemore.
1867	Daniel Whitcomb, John Forristall, Norman U. Cahill.
1868	John Forristall, Norman U. Cahill, Daniel H. Reed.
1869	Norman U. Cahill, Daniel H. Reed, William H. Shirley.

TOWN OFFICERS—(Continued).

	MODERATORS.	TOWN CLERKS.	REPRESENTATIVES.
1870	John M. Parker.	Stephen Batcheller.	John M. Parker.
1871	"	"	"
1872	"	"	Amos J. Blake.
1873	"	"	"
1874	"	"	Silas Cummings.
1875	"	"	Jonas Damon.
1876	"	"	"
1877	"	"	Stephen Batcheller.
1878	Amos J. Blake.	"	
1879	John M. Parker.	"	
1880	"	Harry J. Pratt.	
1881	Amos J. Blake.	* "	
1882	John M. Parker.	Stephen Batcheller.	
1883	Amos J. Blake.	"	
1884	"	"	
1885	"	"	
1886	"	"	
1887	"	"	

* In these cases the Clerk chosen by the town did not hold the office the entire year, and appointments to fill the vacancies were made as follows: in 1789, Dea. John Fasset; in 1845, Joel Hayden, Jr.; in 1846, Nelson Morse; in 1854, Aaron N. Townsend; in 1859, Stephen Batcheller; in 1862, Joel Whittemore; in 1869 and 1881, Stephen Batcheller.

‡ From 1776 to 1783 Fitzwilliam and Swanzey appear to have been united for the choice of representative. In 1776 and 1777, Fitzwilliam refused to join in the election, and consequently lost its representation. For the succeeding six years, the representatives chosen in 1780 and 1783 were residents of Swanzey. This gave, for the entire eight years, four representatives to each town.

AUDITORS.

1851-2.	John J. Allen, Jonathan S. Adams.
1853.	Amos A. Parker, J. S. Adams.
1854.	David Stowell, John J. Allen.
1855.	J. S. Adams, J. J. Allen.
1856.	J. S. Adams, J. J. Allen.
1857.	Amos A. Parker, John J. Allen, Jr.
1858-9.	John J. Allen, A. A. Parker.
1860.	Samuel Kendall, P. S. Batcheller.
1861-2.	John J. Allen, Joel Whittemore.
1863-4.	Joel Whittemore, Asa S. Kendall.
1865.	Anson Streeter.
1866.	Anson Streeter, Amos J. Blake.
1867-8.	Samuel Kendall.
1869.	Stephen Batcheller, Samuel Kendall.
1870.	John Whittemore, Samuel Kendall.
1871-2.	Samuel Kendall, Amos J. Blake.
1873.	Jonathan S. Adams, Samuel Kendall.
1874.	J. S. Adams, Amos J. Blake.

TOWN OFFICERS—(Continued.)

1870	Daniel H. Reed, William H. Shirley, Moses Chaplin.
1871	William H. Shirley, John Forristall, Norman U. Cahill.
1872	John Forristall, Norman U. Cahill, Levi G. Smith.
1873	Norman U. Cahill, Milton Chaplin, Wyman S. White.
1874	Milton Chaplin, Wyman S. White, Reuben L. Angier.
1875	Wyman S. White, Daniel H. Reed, Charles Byam.
1876	Daniel H. Reed, Charles Byam, Samuel S. Stone.
1877	Charles Byam, Samuel S. Stone, Charles D. Bigelow.
1878	Samuel S. Stone, Charles D. Bigelow, Charles Byam.
1879	Charles D. Bigelow, Charles Byam, Reuben L. Angier.
1880	Charles Byam, Reuben L. Angier, Charles D. Bigelow.
1881	William H. Shirley, Elisha M. Bent, Thomas B. Burns.
1882	Elisha M. Bent, Thomas B. Burns, William H. Shirley.
1883	Thomas B. Burns, William H. Shirley, Amos J. Blake.
1884	William H. Shirley, Amos J. Blake, Josiah K. Rand.
1885	Amos J. Blake, Josiah K. Rand, Frank B. Frye.
1886	Josiah K. Rand, Frank B. Frye, Timothy Blodgett.
1887	William H. Shirley, Thomas B. Burns, Edwin N. Bowen.

* In 1780 five selectmen were chosen, the others being Abner Stone and Daniel Mellen.

† In 1842, two additional, Daniel Spaulding and Reuben Pratt, were chosen, at a special town meeting in July.

1875.	Stephen Batcheller.
1876.	J. S. Adams, A. A. Parker, Samuel Kendall.
1877.	Norman U. Cahill, R. L. Angier, A. R. Gleason.
1878.	Samuel Kendall, George A. Whittemore.
1879.	Samuel Kendall, Norman U. Cahill.
1880.	Stephen Batcheller.
1881.	Charles D. Bigelow.
1882.	Charles D. Bigelow, Calvin B. Perry.
1883-5.	Calvin B. Perry, Charles D. Bigelow.
1886-7.	Charles D. Bigelow, Stephen Batcheller.

COLLECTORS.

1773.	Unknown.	1785.	Benoni Shurtleff.
1774.	Levi Brigham.	1786.	Levi Brigham.
1775.	John Mellen.	1787.	Daniel Farrar.
1776.	Stephen Harris.	1788.	Barakiah Scott.
1777-9.	Unknown.	1789.	Edward Payson.
1780.	Joshua Willard.	1790.	Barakiah Scott.
1781.	Samuel Patrick.	1791-3.	William Crane.
1782.	John Fassett.	1794.	Dr. Eben'r Wright.
1783.	Amos Knight.	1795-6.	Thomas Bruce.
1784.	Stephen Harris.	1796-7.	David White.

1798. Joseph Winch.	1848. Charles Sabin.
1799. Benj'n F. Brigham.	1849-50. Nelson Morse.
1800. Thomas Goldsmith.	1851-2. John Whittemore, Jr.
1801-2. Benoni Shurtleff.	1853. Phinehas Whitcomb.
1803. Caleb Winch.	1854. John Whittemore, Jr.
1805-9. John Whittemore.	1855. George A. Whittemore.
1810-14. David White.	1856. Franklin Kendall.
1815. Artemas Wilson, Jr.	1857. John Whittemore.
1816-19. John Whittemore.	1858. William Pratt.
1820-1. Luke B. Richardson.	1859-60. George L. Stearns.
1822-3. Daniel Reed.	1861-2. Oliver Hawkins.
1824. Dexter Whittemore.	1863-4. George A. Whittemore.
1825. Ephraim Parker.	1865. Leander Richardson.
1826-7. Dexter Whittemore.	1866. Oliver Hawkins.
1828. Daniel Spaulding.	1867. Ira Bailey.
1829. John Foster.	1868. Aaron R. Gleason.
1830. Ephraim Parker.	1869-72. Orville L. Brock.
1831. John Foster.	1873. Melvin Wilson.
1832. Jesse Forristall.	1874. Orville L. Brock.
1833-7. Dexter Whittemore.	1875-9. John Forristall.
1838-9. Joseph A. Wilson.	1880-3. Orville L. Brock.
1840. Calvin J. Parker.	1884. Frank B. Frye.
1841. Daniel Spaulding.	1885-6. Elliot K. Wheelock.
1842. Levi Harris.	1887. B. F. Cummings.
1843-7. Charles Bigelow.	

Thomas Bruce, collector for 1796, absconded, and David White was appointed to complete the collection of taxes for that year.

TOWN OFFICERS CHOSEN IN NOVEMBER.

1878. Moderator, Amos J. Blake ; Supervisors, Daniel Whitcomb, Lester K. Stiles, John Forristall ; Representative, Elbridge Cummings.
1880. Moderator, Amos J. Blake ; Supervisors, Daniel Whitcomb, Samuel Kendall, John Forristall* ; Representative, Aaron R. Gleason.
1882. Moderator, Amos J. Blake ; Supervisors, Daniel Whitcomb, Charles D. Bigelow, Daniel H. Reed ; Representative, Orville L. Brock.
1884. Moderator, Amos J. Blake ; Supervisors, Daniel H. Reed, Charles D. Bigelow, Charles F. Mitchell ; Representative, John Colby.

* John Forristall died January 5th, 1881, and Leander Richardson was appointed to fill the vacancy.

1886. Moderator, Amos J. Blake; Supervisors, Charles D. Bigelow, Charles F. Mitchell, John A. Platts; Representative, Jonas Damon.

ASSESSORS.

In 1843 the town chose Daniel Spaulding, John Damon and Henry Shirley for assessors. In all other years the selectmen have acted as assessors.

CONVENTIONS TO REVISE THE CONSTITUTION.

Delegate in 1850..... John S. Brown.
 Delegate in 1877..... John M. Parker.

VOTES FOR GOVERNOR.

The chief magistrate of New Hampshire was styled President under the Constitution of 1783, and Governor by the Constitution of 1793. In 1880 and after, he was elected for two years. The name of the person elected is placed first under each year.

1784. Meshech Weare.....		1799. John T. Gilman.....	75
Josiah Bartlett.....	11	1800. John T. Gilman.....	83
John Langdon.....		Timothy Walker.....	7
1785. John Langdon.....	1	1801. John T. Gilman.....	57
George Atkinson.....	36	1802. John T. Gilman.....	82
1786. Theodore Atkinson....	23	John Langdon.....	6
John Langdon.....	6	1803. John T. Gilman.....	103
1787. John Langdon.....	43	John Langdon.....	9
John Sullivan.....	7	1804. John T. Gilman.....	142
1788. John Langdon.....	7	John Langdon.....	11
John Sullivan.....	29	1805. John Langdon.....	50
1789. John Sullivan.....	50	John T. Gilman.....	92
1790. Josiah Bartlett.....	5	1806. John Langdon.....	66
Joshua Wentworth....	30	Jeremiah Smith.....	63
1791. Josiah Bartlett.....	7	1807. John Langdon.....	68
John Taylor Gilman...	34	Jeremiah Smith.....	46
1792. Josiah Bartlett.....	43	1808. John Langdon.....	43
1793. Josiah Bartlett.....	50	Jeremiah Smith.....	50
1794. John Taylor Gilman...	28	1809. Jeremiah Smith.....	134
Daniel Range.....	3	John Langdon.....	53
1795. John Taylor Gilman...	43	1810. John Langdon.....	72
1796. John T. Gilman.....	54	Jeremiah Smith.....	132
1797. John T. Gilman.....	40	1811. John Langdon.....	61
1798. John T. Gilman.....	61	Jeremiah Smith.....	119

1812. William Plumer.....	73	1833. Scattering.....	1
John T. Gilman.....	129	1834. William Badger.....	74
1813. John T. Gilman.....	132	Moses Stockwell.....	5
William Plumer.....	64	1835. William Badger.....	67
1814. John T. Gilman.....	170	Joseph Healy.....	159
William Plumer.....	73	1836. Isaac Hill.....	60
1815. John T. Gilman.....	162	George Sullivan.....	132
William Plumer.....	81	Scattering.....	8
1816. William Plumer.....	57	1837. Isaac Hill.....	47
James Sheafe.....	133	1838. Isaac Hill.....	57
1817. William Plumer.....	54	James Wilson, Jr.....	269
Jeremiah Mason.....	120	Scattering.....	2
1818. William Plumer.....	65	1839. John Page.....	67
Jeremiah Mason.....	111	James Wilson, Jr.....	252
1819. Samuel Bell.....	73	1840. John Page.....	73
William Hale.....	46	Enos Stevens.....	196
Scattering.....	2	George Kent.....	8
1820. Samuel Bell.....	70	Scattering.....	1
1821. Samuel Bell.....	149	1841. John Page.....	48
1822. Samuel Bell.....	147	Enos Stevens.....	172
1823. Levi Woodbury.....	10	Daniel Hoit.....	21
Samuel Dinsmoor.....	121	Scattering.....	1
1824. David L. Morrill.....	31	1842. Henry Hubbard.....	52
Jeremiah Smith.....	101	Enos Stevens.....	90
Levi Woodbury.....	6	John H. White.....	74
Scattering.....	1	Daniel Hoit.....	26
1825. David L. Morrill.....	136	Scattering.....	1
Scattering.....	1	1843. Henry Hubbard.....	47
1826. David L. Morrill.....	58	Anthony Colby.....	112
Benjamin Pierce.....	56	Daniel Hoit.....	39
1827. Benjamin Pierce.....	117	John H. White.....	35
David L. Morrill.....	13	1844. John H. Steele.....	37
1828. John Bell.....	214	Anthony Colby.....	150
Benjamin Pierce.....	7	Daniel Hoit.....	57
1829. Benjamin Pierce.....	15	Scattering.....	1
John Bell.....	204	1845. John H. Steele.....	42
1830. Matthew Harvey.....	31	Anthony Colby.....	117
Timothy Upham.....	175	Daniel Hoit.....	50
Nahum Parker.....	2	Scattering.....	1
1831. Samuel Dinsmoor.....	49	1846. Jared W. Williams....	59
Ichabod Bartlett.....	183	Anthony Colby.....	127
1832. Samuel Dinsmoor.....	60	Nathaniel S. Berry....	48
Ichabod Bartlett.....	158	1847. Jared W. Williams....	70
1833. Samuel Dinsmoor.....	115	Anthony Colby.....	155
Luther Chapman....	6	Nathaniel S. Berry....	44

1848. Jared W. Williams....	69	1864. Joseph A. Gilmore.....	210
Nathaniel S. Berry	185	Edward W. Harrington ..	86
Scattering.....	1	1865. Frederick Smyth.....	186
1849. Samuel Dinsmoor	58	Edward W. Harrington ..	77
Levi Chamberlain.....	131	1866. Frederick Smyth.....	188
Nathaniel S. Berry	55	John G. Sinclair.....	56
1850. Samuel Dinsmoor.....	54	1867. Walter Harriman.....	192
Levi Chamberlain.....	122	John G. Sinclair.....	64
Nathaniel S. Berry....	49	1868. Walter Harriman.....	223
1851. Samuel Dinsmoor	67	John G. Sinclair.....	76
Thomas E. Sawyer	158	1869. Onslow Stearns.....	193
John Atwood.....	30	John Bedel.....	50
Scattering.....	1	1870. Onslow Stearns.....	200
1852. Noah Martin.....	63	John Bedel.....	46
Thomas E. Sawyer	140	Scattering.....	1
John Atwood.....	44	1871. James Pike.....	181
1853. Noah Martin	56	James A. Weston.....	45
James Bell.....	98	Scattering.....	1
John H. White.....	72	1872. Ezekiel A. Straw.....	221
1854. Nathaniel B. Baker....	56	James A. Weston.....	67
Jared Perkins.....	134	1873. Ezekiel A. Straw.....	184
James Bell.....	74	James A. Weston.....	54
1855. Ralph Metcalf.....	201	Samuel K. Mason.....	5
Nathaniel B. Baker....	54	Scattering.....	1
Asa Fowler.....	21	1874. James A. Weston.....	96
James Bell.....	17	Luther McCutchins....	155
1856. Ralph Metcalf.....	175	John Blackmer.....	6
John S. Wells.....	83	1875. Person C. Cheney	203
Ichabod Goodwin.....	21	Hiram R. Roberts.....	96
1857. William Haile.....	211	1876. Person C. Cheney	194
John S. Wells.....	65	Daniel Marcy	89
Charles B. Haddock...	2	Scattering.....	2
1858. William Haile.....	201	1877. Benjamin F. Prescott..	206
Asa P. Cate.....	60	Daniel Marcy.....	59
1859. Ichabod Goodwin.....	189	Frank A. McKean.....	17
Asa P. Cate.....	69	Asa S. Kendall.....	5
1860. Ichabod Goodwin.....	219	1878. Benjamin F. Prescott..	186
Asa P. Cate.....	88	Frank A. McKean.....	81
1861. Nathaniel S. Berry	200	Asa S. Kendall.....	4
George Stark	65	1879. Nat. Head.....	184
1862. Nathaniel S. Berry	186	Frank A. McKean.....	70
George Stark.....	75	Warren G. Brown.....	21
1863. Joseph A. Gilmore.....	177	1880. Charles H. Bell	196
Ira A. Eastman	81	Frank Jones.....	84
Walter Harriman.....	7	1882. Samuel W. Hale.....	101

1882. Martin V. B. Edgerly... 111	1884. Scattering..... 2
Scattering..... 1	1886. Charles H. Sawyer..... 130
1884. Moody Currier..... 156	Thomas Cogswell..... 71
John M. Hill..... 79	Joseph Wentworth.... 17
L. P. Mason 28	

APPROPRIATIONS.

The table that follows will give a general idea of the regular expenses of the town from the time of its incorporation, but a brief explanation of some particular points seems needful.

The blanks in the first twelve years may be referred to the damaged condition of the records by the fire, elsewhere described, and the same may be said of the most of the blanks for the same period in the lists of town officers.

The appropriations for *town* purposes in 1782, and afterward, were on a specie basis, but the State and county taxes appear to have been made for a short time, at least, on a paper basis, though evidently not in the depreciated Continental currency, which at this time was comparatively worthless. In an abatement of taxes about this time, there was a *money* tax and a *paper* tax.

This depreciation of the currency was referred to in Chapter VIII. on early town history, but it is necessary to notice it here also in explaining the appropriations. Perhaps the two following accounts will set the matter before the reader in a more practical light :

The Town of Fitzwilliam Dr.

to fifteen days of making rates at two Shillings and eight pence per day, lawful money, old way, equal to Rie at four Shillings per bushel.

Abner Stone.

An accompt for carrying Eleazer Pratt and family out of Town. £50.

Joshua Willard.

Abner Stone was one of the selectmen, and made up his account for service on a specie basis. While Constable Willard's fifty pounds in currency, allowing seventy-five for one, which may be called the rate at that time, really amounted to only thirteen shillings fourpence in silver, or expressed in dollars, at six shillings to a dollar, it would be two dollars and twenty-

two cents. The value of the pound at that time was three dollars and thirty-three and one third cents.

In the Revolutionary War and in the War of the Rebellion the town raised very large amounts for war purposes which do not appear in the table. In Chapter XII. of this history, which treats of the last-mentioned struggle, a summary of the cost of that war to Fitzwilliam will be found, but what was raised during the Revolutionary War for the common defence cannot be accurately stated. In about eight months the town appropriated twenty-five thousand four hundred and thirty-four pounds for soldiers' wages, and to pay for provisions for the Continental Army.

The rapid depreciation in the actual value of the currency caused so much trouble in the settlement of debts and contracts, that an authorized scale of depreciation was issued by the Legislature in 1781, by which contracts made at different times might be adjusted. This scale, which is here given, indicates the number of pounds of the paper currency which should be equivalent to one hundred pounds in specie at the different dates.

	1777.	1778.	1779.	1780.	1781.
January.....	100	325	742	2,934	7,500
February.....	104	350	868	3,322	7,500
March.....	106	375	1,000	3,736	7,500
April.....	110	400	1,104	4,000	7,500
May.....	114	400	1,215	4,800	7,500
June.....	120	400	1,342	5,700	12,000
July.....	125	425	1,477	6,000	.....
August.....	150	450	1,630	6,300	.....
September.....	175	475	1,800	6,500	.....
October.....	275	500	2,030	6,700	.....
November.....	310	545	2,308	7,000	.....
December.....	310	634	2,393	7,300	.....

It is impossible to tell whether the appropriations for highways in the early years of the town were for repairs alone or included the cost of new roads, but since the present century came in special appropriations have always been made for the

building of new roads, unless the projected road was very short, and sometimes even then. The amounts in the table were expended entirely for repairs, with these small exceptions, and were usually paid in labor. Previous to 1815, as far as has been ascertained, six cents per hour was allowed : 1815-17, eight cents ; 1818-20, six cents ; 1821-35, eight cents ; 1836-39, ten cents ; 1840-47, eight cents ; 1848-63, ten cents ; 1864-72, sixteen and two third cents ; 1873-75, twenty cents ; 1876-78, sixteen and two third cents ; 1879, twelve cents ; 1880, sixteen and two third cents ; 1881-82, fifteen cents.

In 1789 the town was authorized by special act of the Legislature to levy a tax of a penny per acre on all the land in town subject to taxation for three years, for the benefit of the highways. This was in addition to the regular appropriation. The collector of this tax was Simon Crosby for the three years. Partial lists of this tax and a complete list of the proprietors tax for 1788 have been preserved and are valuable as giving the ownership of the land at the time. The earliest regular town tax list that has been preserved is for the year 1793, and from that date the series is complete to the present time. It is not known what has become of the earlier lists or why they were not preserved. As not a single list is found, it is possible that they were purposely destroyed when all the taxes had been accounted for. Fitzwilliam is not alone in this, as several of the neighboring towns have no lists of an earlier date than 1793.

In 1794 and before, the appropriations and taxes are stated in pounds, shillings and pence ; in 1795 and after, in dollars and cents.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Date.	Schools.	Town Charges.	High- ways.	Date.	Schools.	Town Charges.	High- ways.
1773...	....	....	....	1831..	\$420	\$400	\$800
1774...	£7	£4½	£50	1832..	420	400	800
1775...	7	5	50	1833..	425	400	800
1776...	....	3	....	1834..	450	800	800
1777...	10	22	30	1835..	450	700	800
1778...	15	13	90	1836..	500	1,300	1,000
1779...	180	50	350	1837..	500	1,200	1,000
1780...	400	300	1,800	1838..	800	1,000	1,000
1781...	1,500	700	3,000	1839..	800	1,500	1,000
1782...	20	....	50	1840..	800	2,000	500
1783...	....	....	50	1841..	800	4,000	500
1784...	30	....	100	1842..	800	2,500	1,000
1785...	30	15	150	1843..	800	2,500	1,200
1786...	50	20	150	1844..	800	2,500	1,200
1787...	50	20	150	1845..	800	2,000	1,200
1788...	75	100	150	1846..	900	1,500	1,200
1789...	60	6	100	1847..	900	1,200	1,200
1790...	60	40	100	1848..	900	3,000	1,500
1791...	90	40	100	1849..	900	500	1,500
1792...	100	50	150	1850..	900	600	1,500
1793...	100	75	150	1851..	900	800	1,500
1794...	130	30	150	1852..	1,000	700	1,500
1795...	\$400	\$200	\$500	1853..	1,000	1,000	1,500
1796...	500	170	500	1854..	1,000	1,000	1,500
1797...	600	150	600	1855..	1,000	1,500	1,500
1798...	400	150	500	1856..	1,200	1,500	1,500
1799...	400	250	400	1857..	1,000	1,500	1,500
1800...	300	200	400	1858..	1,000	1,500	1,500
1801...	450	250	450	1859..	1,000	1,000	1,500
1802...	450	150	700	1860..	1,000	1,000	1,500
1803...	450	200	450	1861..	1,000	1,500	1,500
1804...	450	200	800	1862..	800	1,500	1,000
1805...	400	420	800	1863..	1,000	2,000	1,000
1806...	400	200	800	1864..	1,000	3,000	1,400
1807...	400	350	800	1865..	1,500	3,000	1,500
1808...	400	400	800	1866..	1,500	4,000	1,500
1809...	450	350	800	1867..	1,500	3,500	1,500
1810...	450	300	800	1868..	1,500	3,500	1,500
1811...	500	350	800	1869..	1,600	5,000	1,500

APPROPRIATIONS.—(Continued.)

Date.	Schools.	Town Charges.	High ways.	Date.	Schools.	Town Charges.	High-ways.
1812...	\$500	\$300	\$400	1870..	\$1,500	\$6,000	\$1,500
1813...	500	450	600	1871..	1,500	5,000	1,200
1814...	500	650	650	1872..	1,500	3,500	1,200
1815...	500	450	1,000	1873..	1,600	3,500	1,600
1816...	400	500	800	1874..	2,000	2,000	1,600
1817...	400	450	800	1875..	2,000	2,000	1,600
1818...	410	600	410	1876..	2,000	2,000	1,600
1819...	....	900	410	1877..	2,000	1,500	1,500
1820...	500	700	400	1878..	2,000	1,500	1,600
1821...	500	400	800	1879..	1,600	500	1,300
1822...	500	200	800	1880..	2,000	200	2,000
1823...	500	400	1,000	1881..	1,800	100	2,000
1824...	500	350	800	1882..	1,800	500	2,000
1825...	500	200	800	1883..	2,000	500	1,600
1826...	500	275	800	1884..	2,000	500	1,600
1827...	500	300	800	1885..	2,000	100	1,600
1828...	600	200	800	1886..	2,000	none	1,300
1829...	600	400	1,000	1887..	1,500	....	1,300
1830...	425	400	600				

The number of resident tax-payers in 1793 was two hundred and twenty-one; in 1803, two hundred and thirty-five; in 1813, two hundred and fifty-eight; in 1823, two hundred and thirty-nine, and in 1833, three hundred.

The ten highest tax-payers were as follows:

1793.	1803.	1813.
Samuel Kendall,	Phinehas Reed,	Phinehas Reed,
Sylvanus Reed,	Samuel Kendall,	Thos. Richardson,
Matthias Felton,	Jesse Forristall,	Jonas Robeson,
Reuben Pratt,	William Farrar,	Samuel Tower,
Francis Fullam,	Jonas Robeson,	Samuel Griffin,
Jonas Knight,	Thomas Goldsmith,	Amos Pratt,
Nathaniel Wilson,	Matthias Felton,	Nahum Parker,
Joshua Harrington,	Francis Fullam,	Abel Baker,
Levi Brigham,	Amos Pratt,	William Farrar,
Benjamin Davison.	Artemas Wilson.	Matthias Felton.

1823.		1833.	
Town, State, County, Minister, Highway and School Taxes.		Town, State, County, Highway and School Taxes.	
Daniel Reed.....	\$42.17	Phinehas Reed.....	\$44.65
Samuel Griffin.....	33.92	Samuel Knight.....	33.39
Josiah Fullam.....	31.51	John Burbank, Jr....	33.12
John Whittemore	30.02	John Sabin.....	31.32
Levi Tower.....	28.90	Jacob Felton.....	30.14
David Stone.....	28.53	Dexter Whittemore...	30.06
Phinehas Wright.....	27.60	Daniel Spaulding.....	29.19
Susan Robeson.....	27.29	Thomas Richardson...	27 22
William F. Perry	26.78	Daniel Forristall.....	26.97
Theophilus May.....	26.65	David Stone.....	26.37

With regard to the financial condition of Fitzwilliam since its incorporation in 1773, this may be said :

In the earlier years of the town it would seem from the records that the taxes were not always paid as promptly as was desirable, owing, no doubt, in most cases to the scarcity of money, but since the commencement of the present century there has been very little cause for complaint regarding this matter.

In 1858, the selectmen, in making their annual report to the town, were able to say that

notwithstanding the embarrassed condition of all moneyed institutions through the length and breadth of our country and the world, the taxpayers of Fitzwilliam, with the exception only of the abatements, stated in the above report, have paid every dollar of their taxes so promptly that the Treasury has ever been able to redeem our orders at sight, and on settlement with the Treasurer, we found the Collector had the receipts in full of State, County and Town Treasurers and of the School District Agents.

This is certainly a favorable exhibit in financial matters.

In ordinary times the chief expenditures must always be for the support of schools and the making and maintaining the highways ; for schools because a new generation is always demanding the means of education, and for the highways because the face of the country is so irregular that the earth upon the hills is constantly finding its way to the valleys.

Before the breaking out of the Rebellion, when extraordinary expenses became at once necessary, it was the settled policy of the town to carry no debt along from year to year, but as far as was practicable to raise each year such amount as would be needed to cover the expenditures for the year. From 1861 onward for the space of five years a large amount of money was needed to pay bounties to the men enlisting in the service of the country, to support soldiers' families, and to meet other extraordinary expenses, but probably few towns had less difficulty in keeping their treasuries supplied. During this time, as is well known, many towns paid a considerable bonus for money, but even when the United States Government was paying $7\frac{3}{10}$ per cent interest, this town borrowed all it needed at the rate of six per cent. The details of these war expenses will be shown in the chapter upon the suppression of the Rebellion, but the following summary may here be given :

In March, 1862, the extra expenses had amounted to two hundred and four dollars and nine cents, while the indebtedness of the town was thirteen hundred and seventy-four dollars and forty-eight cents.

In March, 1863, extra expenses reported amounted to forty-nine hundred and forty-three dollars and fifty cents, while the town's indebtedness was forty-one hundred and eighty dollars and fifty-four cents.

March, 1864, the extra expenses occasioned by the war amounted to twelve thousand five hundred and two dollars, and the indebtedness of the town was nine thousand eighty-two dollars and sixty-seven cents.

March, 1865, the report showed that twelve thousand two hundred and seventeen dollars and thirty cents had been expended for soldiers' bounties, etc., during the year, and that the town's indebtedness had reached the sum of nineteen thousand one hundred and thirty-two dollars and fifty-eight cents.

March, 1866, the report showed that the extra expenses had been forty-two hundred and fifty dollars and nineteen cents, and that the town then owed twenty-one thousand eight hundred and thirty-three dollars and ninety-seven cents (its maxi-

mum debt). The uncollected taxes for the year amounted to thirty-nine dollars and fifty cents.

At the March meeting, 1867, the report showed that the rate of taxation had been one dollar and ninety-one cents on one hundred dollars, and that the town's indebtedness was twenty thousand five hundred and twenty-four dollars and forty-six cents.

In 1868 the rate had been one dollar and sixty-seven cents on every one hundred dollars, while the indebtedness had been reduced to nineteen thousand nine hundred and ninety-five dollars and fifty-three cents.

The subject of funding the town debt having been properly brought before the town at the annual meeting in March, 1867, it was voted that an amount not exceeding twenty thousand dollars of the debt should be funded by coupon bonds payable in from three to fifteen years, with interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, payable semi-annually. None of the bonds were to be sold under par, and they were to be issued only for funding the debt of the town. The committee appointed to carry this vote into effect consisted of Amos A. Parker, Joel Whittemore, and Amos J. Blake. At the next annual meeting, March, 1868, this committee made the following report :

The Committee appointed at the last Annual Town Meeting to fund the town debt, not exceeding \$20,000 in amount, promptly attended to the duty assigned them. As soon as practicable they procured a Town Seal and printed blank Bonds with coupons annexed ; and then proceeded to issue them as fast as people could be found to take them.

This, especially at first, was no easy task, although repudiation by towns is impossible and the security most ample ; yet, as the Government were, all the time, paying a larger interest, not a few preferred the Government Bonds. The work, however, has been done, the whole amount of \$20,000 has been funded in Bonds running not less than three nor more than fifteen years from their date.

We would report our transactions in detail as follows :

We have received accrued interest on Bonds issued after their date \$28.74, and have allowed interest on moneys received for Bonds issued before their date \$73.16, which makes the amount of money received by us \$19,955.58.

After giving a list of notes paid amounting with the interest on them to eighteen thousand eight hundred and thirty-two dollars and ninety-eight cents, which, with eleven hundred and twenty-two dollars and sixty cents paid into the town treasury, made the total amount nineteen thousand nine hundred and fifty-five dollars and fifty-eight cents, same as received, the report proceeded :

The Bonds issued fall due as follows :

July 1, 1870.....	\$1,000	January 1, 1876.....	\$1,000
January 1, 1871.....	2,500	January 1, 1877.....	800
July 1, 1871.....	300	July 1, 1877.....	1,400
January 1, 1872.....	1,600	January 1, 1878.....	400
July 1, 1872.....	2,100	January 1, 1880.....	200
January 1, 1873.....	300	July 1, 1882.....	1,900
July 1, 1873.....	2,300		
January 1, 1874.....	3,500	Total.....	\$20,000
January 1, 1875.....	700		

The Committee, considering that they have completed the work assigned them, have passed over to the Selectmen the Notes they have paid. Have paid to the town Treasurer the cash remaining in their hands, and are prepared to deliver over the Town Seal and the unused blank Bonds.

A. A. Parker,	}	Committee for funding the Town Debt.
Joel Whittemore,		
Amos J. Blake,		

Fitzwilliam, Feb. 29, 1868.

The subscriber having examined the above report of the Committee for funding the Town Debt finds it accurately cast and properly vouched.

Samuel Kendall,

Fitzwilliam, Feb. 29, 1868.

Auditor.

Though the bonds were not so readily taken at the very first, yet afterward the committee could easily have disposed of a much larger amount.

The following table shows the rate of taxation on a hundred dollars, and the amount of the town's indebtedness as reported by the selectmen at the annual meetings from 1869 to 1880 inclusive. In 1873 the assets included five thousand dollars of State bonds, which reduced the indebtedness by that amount.

Year.	Rate.	Debt.	Year.	Rate.	Debt.
1869....	\$1.96	\$19,139.40	1875....	\$1.38	\$1,947.88
1870....	2.20	18,943.79	1876....	1.30	1,130.17
1871....	2.46	15,644.55	1877....	1.28	2,022.74
1872....	2.60	13,761.86	1878....	1.30	856.51
1873....	2.00	5,322.38	1879....	1.42	80.43
1874....	1.85	3,097.55	1880....	.95	surplus 576.76

In 1880 the assets exceeded the liabilities by five hundred and seventy-six dollars and seventy-six cents.

It is proposed to insert here a copy of the list of legal voters in the town, as prepared by the selectmen, Joseph Brigham, John J. Allen, and David Stone, February 21st, 1820, for the annual meeting in March.

A.

Arunah Allen.
John J. Allen.
Jubal Allen.
Philip Amadon.
Solomon Alexander.
Abel Angier.
Abel Angier, Jr.

B.

Hyman Bent.
Wm. H. Bent.
Elisha Bent.
Art. Beard.
Charles Bowker.
Joseph Blodget.
Abel Baker.
Bartlett Bowker.
Melvin Brown.
John Bosworth.
Levi Brigham.
Joseph Brigham.
Timothy Blodget.
Joseph Bigelow.
John Burbank.
John Burbank, Jr.

C.

Abisha Collins.
Jonathan Cass.
Silas Chase.

Thaddeus Cummings.

Ezekiel Collins.
Luther Chapman.
Calvin Coolidge.
John Cobleigh.
Amos Cobleigh.
Curtis Coolidge.
Moses Chaplin.
Josiah Carter.
Levi Chamberlain.

D.

Benjamin Davidson.
Benjamin Davidson.
Samuel Davis.
Amos Davis.
Moses Drury, Jr.
Abel Dunton.
Sylvanus Dana.
Elisha Drury.
Luther Damon.
Jude Damon.
Nathan Drury.
Oliver Damon.
Oliver Damon, Jr.
George Damon.

E.

Benjamin Eddy.
Samuel Ellis.
Pelatiah M. Everett.

F.

William Flagg.
Jesse Forristall.
Jesse Forristall, Jr.
Daniel Forristall.
Philemon Fairbanks.
Amos Freeman.
Samuel Felch.
Elisha Fassett.
Levi Fassett.
John Fassett.
Joseph Fassett.
Obil Fassitt.
Luna Foster.
Rufus Foster.
Darius Fisher.
Herman Fisher.
John Fay.
Francis Fullum.
Josiah Fullum.
Matthias Felton.
Artemas Felton.
Joseph Fassett, 2d.

G.

Edward Goodwin.
Samuel Griffin.
Richard Gleason, Jr.
James Godfrey.
James Gibson.
David Grant.

Allen Grant.
Micah Graves, Jr.
David Graves.
Jonas Gary.

H.

Joel Hayden.
Ezra Hayden.
Asahel Hartwell.
Joel Hunt.
Nahum Howe.
Edward Holman.
Sylvanus Holman.
Moses Hayden.
Samuel Hayden.
Phineas Howe.
Amos Hale.
Royal Howard.

I and J.

Josiah Ingalls.
Eliphalet Johnson.

K.

John Knight.
Luke Kendall.
William Knight.
Samuel Kilburn.
Jonas Knight.

L.

William Locke.
Edward Loud.
William Locke, Jr.
Joseph Locke.
Asa H. Locke.
Elijah Lyon.

M.

Jabez Morse.
John Moody.
Daniel Mellen.
Cyrus Mulliken.
John Mellen.
Thomas Moore.
Josiah Moore.
Noah Miles.
John Miles.
John McCurdy.
Joel Miles.

O.

Matthew Osborn.
John Osborn.

Jonah Osborn.
Benjamin Osborn.
Matthew Osborn, Jr.

P.

Robinson Perkins.
Jared Perkins.
Shubel Plympton.
Samuel Patch.
Elihu Penniman, Jr.
Elihu Penniman.
John Petts.
Nahum Parker.
Nahum Parker, Jr.
Wm. F. Perry.
Amos Pratt.
Joseph Pratt.
Reuben Pratt.
Edward Platts.
Jedediah Putney.
Levi Pratt.

Ebenezer Potter.
Ebenezer Potter, Jr.
Peter Prescott.
Peter Prescott, Jr.
Ebenezer Prescott.
Elijah Phillips.
Nathaniel Phillips.
Phineas Parks, Jr.

R.

David Rice.
David Rice, Jr.
Luke B. Richardson.
Thomas Richardson.
Phineas Reed.
Daniel Reed.
Samuel Randall.
Samuel Rockwood.
Thos. Richardson, Jr.

S.

John Sabin.
Hezekiah Stone.
Artemas Stone.
Samuel Stone.
Nathaniel S. Stone.
Daniel Simonds.
Ebenezer Saunders.
Amasa Scott.
Calvin Smith.
John Stone.
James Stone.
John Sargent.
Abner Stone.
David Stone.

John Shirley.
Jonathan Stone.
Elijah T. Smith.
James Stone, Jr.
Joseph Stone.
Joseph Stone, 2d.
John Stone, 2d.
Moses Stone.
Nathan Smith.
Royal Smith.
Caleb Sweetser.
Daniel Streeter.

T.

Levi Tower.
Samuel Tower.
Nathan Townsend.
Otis Taft.
Aaron Townsend.
James Taylor, Jr.

V.

John W. Van Doorn.

W.

Ebenezer Wright.
Phineas Wright.
Aaron Wright.
John Whitcomb.
Oliver Whitcomb.
Oliver Whitcomb, Jr.
Joshua Worcester.
Joel Wright.
Stephen White.
Thomas Wilson.
Gardner Wright.
Jonas Woods.
Silas Woods.
John Whittemore.
Dexter Whittemore.
Silas Warner.
William Whittemore.
Asa Wait.
Asa Wait, Jr.
Joel Whitney.
Artemas Wilson.
Artemas Wilson, Jr.
Benjamin Wilson.
David Whitney.
Josiah Wilson.
Noah White.
Daniel White.

Total number, 219.

Checked on the list as
voting, 103.

The check-list for the March meeting, 1830, contains two hundred and forty-seven names, and of these two hundred and seven voted for Governor. Only forty did not vote.

At the Presidential election, November 2d, 1840, the check-list contained three hundred and seventy-two names; of these three hundred and thirty-four voted. Thirty-eight did not vote.

In 1850 the check-list prepared September 19th contained three hundred and twenty-six names.

The check-list for the annual town meeting in March, 1860, contained three hundred and fifty-eight names, and of these three hundred and twelve voted the State ticket. Forty-six did not vote.

For the annual meeting, March, 1870, the list contained the names of three hundred and four voters.

In 1880 the list contained the names of three hundred and eight voters, and in November two hundred and eighty voted.

At the Presidential election in 1884 the check-list contained three hundred and twelve names, and of these two hundred and sixty-five voted as follows for electors:

Greenback or Butler	Ticket.....	2
Prohibition or St. John	"	27
Democratic or Cleveland	"	80
Republican or Blaine	"	156.

CHAPTER XII.

FITZWILLIAM IN THE REBELLION.

Antagonism Between Freedom and Slavery—Election of Abraham Lincoln—Excitement at the Breaking Out of the War—Action of the Town for Enlisting Soldiers—These in Their Several Regiments—Summary of Expenses and Losses—Soldiers' Monument—Incidents of the War.

THE history of the world proves conclusively that there is a deadly antagonism between freedom and slavery. In the early years of our republic, the two systems began the contest, and it grew hotter and hotter till the great Rebellion was inaugurated. But long before the outbreak of hostilities between the North and the South the design of the slave power to extend, if possible, but most certainly to perpetuate itself, was painfully manifest. When Missouri was admitted as one of the States of the Union, in 1821, and slavery was allowed there, the friends of liberty throughout the land were alarmed, and the pressure brought by them to bear upon Congress was so great that the measure called the Missouri Compromise was reluctantly passed. The South had demanded

the right to extend slavery over all the Territories of the United States, the right to hold their slaves in all the States of the Union temporarily, that speaking or writing against slavery in any State of the Union should be a penal offence, that the North should catch the fugitive slaves and send them back to bondage, and that the administration of the General Government should be placed in the hands of those only whom the South could trust, as the pledged enemies of republican equality and the friends of slavery.

To meet this demand, so far as the extension of slavery was concerned, the Missouri Compromise was framed, and it was recognized certainly at the North as a solemn compact never to be broken. But the great mass of the Southern people always regarded its terms with disfavor, and seemed ready to set it aside if possible, when the first hopeful opportunity should offer. Such an occasion appeared to present itself when

the people of the Territory of Nebraska adopted a Constitution, and asked to be admitted to the Union, for, if slavery could be legalized there, its friends were confident that nothing could prevent its spreading over all the newer Territories that might soon be organized farther West.

The liberty-loving people of the country had not forgotten the scenes that had been witnessed in Kansas, when the most inhuman means were resorted to for the purpose of giving slavery a permanent foothold there ; and the indignation of the North was thoroughly aroused by this new effort to override the Compromise and make slavery possible in Nebraska.

This statement will sufficiently explain the action of the voters of Fitzwilliam which is given below.

At the annual meeting of the town, March 14th, 1854, Asa S. Kendall offered the following resolutions :

1. Resolved, That we, the legal voters of Fitzwilliam in Town Meeting assembled, most earnestly and solemnly Protest against the passage by Congress of any Bill calculated to impair, annul or render inoperative, or declaring that any legislation has superseded, annulled or rendered inoperative, the provisions known as the Missouri Compromise embraced in the eighth section of the Act admitting Missouri into the Union, which is as follows :

“ That in all that Territory ceded by France to the United State under the name of Louisiana which lies north of the thirty-sixth degree and thirty minutes of North Latitude, not included within the limits of the State contemplated by this Act, Slavery and involuntary servitude, otherwise than as the punishment of crimes, shall be and hereby is forever prohibited.”

2. Resolved, That we fully coincide in the views expressed in a Resolve passed by the House of Representatives of our State in 1850, as follows : “ That the people of this State are bound by no compact, express or implied, to suffer the introduction of Slavery into territory now free ; and that they are unalterably opposed to the erection of any Territory without its prohibition, by positive law.”

3. Resolved, That our State Legislature be requested to instruct our Senators and Representatives in Congress, upon no consideration or condition whatever, not even the preservation of the Union, to give their assent to any Bill, permitting, allowing, or even tolerating Slavery in that territory which was declared to be forever consecrated to Freedom by the Missouri Compromise Act of 1820.

4. Resolved, That these Resolutions be entered upon the Town Records

and that a copy of the same be sent to our State Legislature and to each member of our delegation in the Congress of the United States.

These resolutions, after an address by Ephraim Parker, a native of Fitzwilliam, and recently from Missouri, were adopted by a vote of one hundred and twenty to seven.

That this bold and determined opposition to the repeal, in any manner or degree, of the Compromise in question, caused the defeat of the measures proposed for that purpose there can be no question. Nebraska was made a free State, and the friends of human freedom breathed more freely.

But the old antagonism, favored by the condition of the great political parties of the country, continued, and compromises could do nothing effectual to allay it. The fire was only smouldering—it was by no means extinguished.

The election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency, in 1860, and his inauguration, March 4th, 1861, hastened on the struggle.

The outbreak of the Rebellion, which to most appeared so sudden and unexpected, was, after all, only the natural order of events, when we consider the strength and violence of human passion. The time comes when the underground fires that have been burning for generations must burst forth. But the explosion in this case was none the less fearful for this reason.

The bombardment of Fort Sumter, a fortress of the United States in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina, carried consternation to the hearts of all our loyal countrymen. The attack upon this fort, which was made April 12th, 1861, was the signal of war; and when, thirty-six hours later, the heroic Colonel (afterward General) Anderson surrendered his little garrison to the rebel hosts that confronted him, the great struggle had commenced in earnest. Pouring into Virginia, an army of rebels at once threatened Washington, and soon troops from Massachusetts, dispatched in haste for the rescue of our national Capital, were assailed and shot down in the streets of Baltimore. All was commotion in the insurgent States, and soon the rebel cause seemed to have gained the most fearful proportions. These events, that followed one

another in quick succession, aroused the patriotism of the North, and in every town there was a determination to support, at all hazards, our Government against the mighty combination that was threatening its destruction. Fitzwilliam was not lacking in this hour of trial, for the men, women, and children in every part of the town hastened to raise and honor the glorious flag of our Union, and to determine upon the course of action that duty and safety demanded.

At a town meeting legally called and held May 9th, 1861, J. J. Allen, Jr., offered the following preamble and resolutions :

Whereas several States of the Union have wickedly joined in a rebellion against the rightful authorities thereof, with the avowed intention, by armed resistance to the laws, to subvert the government and establish for themselves a Confederacy based upon the central idea of human slavery, and

Whereas the Governor of New Hampshire has, in obedience to a requisition from the President, called out a portion of the Militia of this State to aid in suppressing the insurrection and in the support of the government, and

Whereas it becomes all legal persons and constituencies to properly show their devotion to the glorious institutions of our country, which have made it prosper as country never prospered before,

Therefore

Resolved, That this town views, with approbation and pride, the patriotism and spirit of those citizens who have volunteered to enlist from this town ; and that any expenditures which may have been made by individuals for the comfortable outfit of such volunteers be reimbursed to said contributors from the treasury of the Town.

Resolved, That any such soldier from this town who has already enlisted and has a family dependent upon him for support, shall receive, either personally or by his said family, from the treasury of the town, a sum which, together with what may be paid him by the government, shall be equal to one dollar and twenty-five cents per day, exclusive of rations, for the time he may honorably discharge his duties in the service.

Resolved, That the Selectmen be, and they are hereby authorized and instructed to purchase twenty-two Revolvers for the use of the soldiers now, or hereafter to be enlisted from this town, the intent being that upon the expiration of the term of enlistment of said soldiers, such weapons shall pass to their successors, if any such there be, if not, they shall revert to the town.

These resolutions appear to have been adopted.

It was then voted that the town make the pay of each and

every soldier who has enlisted and has not a family dependent upon him, equal to the sum of twenty dollars per month, exclusive of rations.

It was voted also "That the town furnish suitable India-rubber blankets for the soldiers who have enlisted," but this action was so amended that the cost of the blankets was to be deducted from the amount to be paid to the soldiers.

The selectmen were then directed to carry out these provisions, and for this purpose empowered to hire a sum of money not exceeding one thousand dollars.

Before the date of the town meeting at which the resolutions given above were adopted, viz., May 9th, 1861, the President of the United States had issued a call for seventy-five thousand soldiers to enlist for the space of three months, it being the opinion of those in authority and of the loyal people generally, that this time would be amply sufficient for putting an end to the Rebellion.

The first enlistments in Fitzwilliam were made under this call and were eighteen in number.

The names of these men will be given under the head "First Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers," but it may be stated in this place that *Willard A. Newton* has the honor to be the first man who enlisted as a volunteer from Fitzwilliam.

Of the eighteen men who enlisted under the first call for volunteers as mentioned above, seventeen were mustered into the service.

According to the vote of the town each of these men was furnished with a revolver, the whole costing three hundred and forty-seven dollars and fifty cents.

All of these men, with the exception of Mr. Wheeler (who served in a Vermont regiment), received from the town as bounties sums varying from twenty-five dollars and seventy-five cents to twenty-seven dollars each, the whole amounting to four hundred and forty-six dollars.

At a meeting of the town, November 9th, 1861, on motion of A. A. Parker, Esq., it was

Resolved, That the sum of three hundred Dollars be, and the same is, hereby appropriated to the aid of the wife and the children under six-

teen years of age, of any inhabitant of the town of Fitzwilliam, who as a member of the volunteer or enrolled militia of this State, may have been mustered or enlisted into the service of the United States, and for each parent or child, who, at the time of his enlistment, was dependent on him for support ; provided that such persons are indigent and stand in need of such relief. And the Selectmen are authorized to borrow on the credit of the town a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars and apply so much thereof as may be needed for the purposes aforesaid.

At an adjourned town meeting a week later, a statement of expenditures having been made by the selectmen, A. A. Parker, Esq., offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the sum of three hundred and sixty-five dollars and thirty-eight cents be raised to defray the expense already incurred in the purchase of Revolvers and Blankets for the soldiers of Fitzwilliam enlisted into the service of the United States, and the Selectmen be authorized to hire said sum on the credit of the town.

Subscriptions made in aid of the volunteers who enlisted in the service of the United States at the breaking out of the war, the town voted at the annual meeting in March, 1862, to refund.

In the selectmen's report to the town at the annual meeting, March 11th, 1862, the only account of expenses occasioned by the war is as follows. Paid soldiers' families.

Mrs. Nathan Morse.....	\$33.50	Paul Martin.....	\$13.00
Elihu Morse	46.59	Lucius Whitcomb	28.00
Mrs. Asa B. Fiske.....	31.00		
Frederic Lawrence	38.00	Total	\$204.09
Sarah Cass.....	14.00		

May 17th, 1862, the town appropriated four hundred dollars in aid of the families of volunteers, under provisions precisely similar to those adopted for the same purpose at the town meeting, November 9th, 1861, and which are recorded above.

August 22d, 1862, the town adopted the following :

Resolved, That a Bounty of one hundred and fifty dollars be paid to each volunteer from this town who shall hereafter be enlisted and mustered into the service of the United States in any regiment of volunteers heretofore raised in this State during the present rebellion ; that a Bounty of one hundred dollars be paid to every such volunteer so enlisted and mustered in any regiment of volunteers now being raised in this

State, and that a Bounty of fifty dollars be paid to each volunteer from **this town** under the recent call for 300,000 troops to serve nine months **unless** sooner discharged.

Provided however that said bounties shall not be paid unless such volunteers shall have enlisted or made known their readiness to enlist before any draft for the description of force they propose to join shall be actually made and they shall be accepted and mustered in as a part of the quota of the town.

It was then voted to adopt the following preamble and resolutions :

Whereas an act was passed at the last session of the General Court entitled "An Act in addition to and Amendment of the Act Authorizing cities and towns to aid the families of Volunteers and for other purposes," passed June Session, 1861, which act restricts the provisions of the previous act in some particulars and extends them in others, therefore

Resolved, That the resolution adopted at the town meeting held May 17, 1862, appropriating four hundred dollars in aid of the families of Volunteers be, and the same is hereby rescinded.

Resolved, That the sum of five hundred dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated for the purposes authorized by said act of the last session of the General Court, to be applied by the Selectmen as the same shall in their judgment be needed.

The selectmen were then authorized to borrow the money needed to pay the bounties specified in the above-mentioned resolution, to pay the bounties and to procure volunteers.

At an adjourned meeting held August 29th, 1862, the selectmen having made a statement of their action in procuring volunteers, it was

Resolved, That the volunteers for the new three years' Regiments be paid twenty-five dollars each, and the volunteers for nine months be paid Fifty dollars each in addition to the amount already voted.

Resolved, That the Selectmen be, and they are hereby authorized and instructed to pay the wife and the children under twelve years of age of all volunteers in the regiments formed, under the recent requisitions for 300,000 men for three years and 300,000 men for nine months, four dollars per month, each, in addition to the bounties heretofore voted ; the whole amount so paid not to exceed twelve dollars per month for any one family ; and this payment to continue so long as the volunteer remains in the service.

Voted, That the Bounties, exclusive of the aid to their families, be

paid to the Volunteers on being mustered into the service of the United States.

At the annual meeting, March 10th, 1863, the sum of eighteen hundred dollars was appropriated, or so much of it as should be needed to aid soldiers' families.

At the same meeting, March 10th, 1863, the selectmen's report showed disbursements, on account of the war, as follows :

Charles H. Woods, enlisting volunteers.....	\$25
Bounties to three years' men.....	1800
" " nine months' "	2100
Paid to soldiers' families.....	1043.50
<hr/>	
Total, \$4968.50	

As the soldiers' names to whom these bounties were paid, and the amount which each soldier received will appear in the tables annexed, where the names of all the men who enlisted will be presented in their regiments and companies, no more particulars respecting these soldiers are here required.

The families aided during the year closing March 10th, 1863, were as follows :

Elihu Morse.....	\$134.04	Stillman S. Stone.....	\$40.00
Lucius Whitcomb.....	106.46	George A. Smiley	60.00
Nathan Morse.....	110.50	Jefferson Richardson.....	48.00
Asa B. Fiske.....	94.00	Loammi B. Underwood....	9.50
Paul Martin.....	28.00	Charles R. Monroe.....	32.00
John L. Church.....	45.00	Amos T. Town.....	48.00
Asaph Whitcomb.....	48.00	James M. Ingalls.....	32.00
John B. Fiske.....	40.00	Elisha Harkness.....	48.00
Frederick Lawrence.....	24.00	Leander Richardson.....	14.00
Daniel P. Osborn.....	42.00	<hr/>	
Joseph H. Ramsdell.....	40.00	Total.....	\$1,043.50

September 13th, 1863, the town voted

to pay to the men now drafted of this town who have been or shall be mustered into the United States service, or to the substitutes of the said drafted men, who have been or shall be mustered into the United States service, three hundred dollars, each, ten days after being mustered into said service.

December 21st, 1863, the town adopted the following :

Resolved, That the Committee duly appointed for the purpose of filling the quota required of the town of Fitzwilliam, are authorized to pay

each citizen who will enlist and be mustered into the service of the United States the sum of three hundred dollars, in addition to the bounties offered by the Government of the United States and the State of New Hampshire.

Resolved, That if the Committee fail of procuring citizens to fill the quota as required of said town, then they are authorized to hire men to fill up said quota, at a reasonable price, provided the sum of money required for each man does not exceed three hundred dollars in addition to the bounties of the United States and the State of New Hampshire.

Resolved, That the Committee of the town are authorized to cash the bounties offered by the Governments of the United States and the State of New Hampshire, in the payment of their contract with all the volunteers that are mustered into the United States service to fill the quota of Fitzwilliam, provided such bounties are legally transferred and assigned to the town of Fitzwilliam.

The committee appointed by the town to carry into effect the resolutions adopted at the meeting of December 21st, 1863, consisted of George L. Stearns and Phillip S. Batcheller, and they were authorized to appoint another member of their committee.

Amos J. Blake, Esq., was appointed upon this committee. Provision was also made for borrowing a sum of money, not exceeding fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000), to carry into effect the resolutions above-mentioned.

At the annual town meeting, March 8th, 1864, it was voted

That all veteran soldiers of Fitzwilliam who have re-enlisted for three years or during the war, and can be allowed on the quota of this town on any call of the President, be paid, as Bounty, the sum of Three Hundred dollars each, provided they have not received any extra pay or bounty from this or any other town or State.

At the same meeting, March 8th, 1864, the report of the selectmen showed disbursements on account of the war, as follows :

Bounties paid to three years' men.....	\$9,724
“ “ “ drafted “	1,200
Paid balance due three months' men.....	265
“ to aid soldiers' families.....	1,313

\$12,502

The soldiers' families aided during the year closing March 8th, 1864, and the amounts received by each were as follows :

George A. Smilie	\$149.00	Jefferson Richardson.....	\$42.00
Elihu Morse.....	140.00	J. Lovell Church.....	47.33
Nathan Morse.....	127.75	Abraham H. Richards	48.00
Daniel P. Osborne.....	120.00	Asa B. Fiske.....	24.00
Asaph Whitcomb.....	98.67	Julius O. Stone.....	16.00
John B. Fiske.....	88.00	Paul Martin.....	16.00
Amos T. Town.....	72.00	Robert Nixon.....	12.00
Samuel S. Stone.....	90.25	Elisha Rugg.....	8.00
James M. Ingalls.....	48.00	Lucius Whitcomb.....	6.00
Charles R. Monroe.....	48.00		
Elisha Harkness.....	48.00	Total.....	\$1,313.00

At the same date among the assets of the town the following important items may be found :

Due from United States Government for	
bounties advanced.....	\$4004
“ from State for State aid.....	1136
	<hr/>
Total,	\$5140

June 18th, 1864, the town adopted the following :

Resolved, That the Selectmen are authorized to pay to each soldier of Fitzwilliam who has been drafted since May 1, 1864, to fill the quota of the town, or who has furnished a substitute, the sum of three hundred dollars as a bounty, to be paid in ten days after he has been accepted and mustered into the service of the United States.

July 23d, 1864, the town adopted the following :

Resolved, That the Selectmen of the Town of Fitzwilliam be authorized and instructed in behalf of the town, to pay the sum of one hundred dollars as a bounty, for each one year's man, two hundred dollars for each two years' man, and three hundred dollars for each three years' man, who shall be mustered into the service of the United States, as a volunteer to fill the quota of this town, under the present call of the President for five hundred thousand men.

The same bounties were offered for substitutes of enrolled men, while at the same time the town voted to pay

to any drafted person of said town who may be held to service under the present order for a draft, who shall serve in person, the sum of two hundred dollars, or to his substitute the highest sum the law authorizes.

September 5th, 1864, the town adopted the following :

Resolved, That the Selectmen are authorized to pay four hundred dollars as bounty to any person who has been an inhabitant of Fitzwilliam for three months, and has enlisted on the quota of said town under the last call of the President and actually mustered into the service of the United States.

Resolved, That the town does hereby appropriate as bounty to each soldier, except to those enlisted from insurgent States, who shall be mustered into the service of the United States, to fill the quota of Fitzwilliam, under the last call of the President, whether such soldier shall have voluntarily enlisted, or volunteered as a substitute for a drafted or enrolled man, the sum of one hundred dollars for each one year's man, two hundred dollars for each two years' man, and three hundred dollars for each three years' man, and in the same proportion for any term of service, the above specified bounties of one hundred, two hundred, and three hundred dollars are hereby declared to be in lieu of the bounties voted by the town, July 23, 1864.

January 16th, 1865. The town voted to pay the sum of two hundred dollars to each volunteer, the same being a citizen of this town that has or may enlist and be mustered into the service of the United States for the term of one year prior to the 2d Tuesday of March, 1865.

At the annual meeting, March 14th, 1865, the action above mentioned of January 16th, 1865, was restricted to such as helped to fill the quota of Fitzwilliam.

At this meeting, March 14th, 1865, the town repeated its offers of bounties to men serving one, two, and three years, of one hundred, two hundred, and three hundred dollars, as it had done July 23d, 1864, but the offer was under a new call of the President for three hundred thousand men.

A bounty of two hundred dollars was pledged to each drafted man when mustered into service, and also a bounty of one hundred dollars for each year's service was offered to any person who should be mustered in under the same call, as a part of the quota of Fitzwilliam.

April 10th, 1865, the town voted to pay the sum of two hundred dollars additional bounty to the sum already voted, to the seven men who last enlisted in the service of the United States to fill the quota of Fitzwilliam under the last call of the President, provided that no one of the seven men shall receive in all, as bounty, a sum exceeding five hundred dollars.

At the annual meeting, March 14th, 1865, it appeared from the report of the selectmen that disbursements on account of the war had been made during the year covered by the report, as follows :

Paid bounties.....	\$2400
“ balance due three months’ men.....	155.25
“ for furnishing substitutes.....	8100
To aid soldiers’ families.....	1562.05

Total, \$12,217.30

Soldiers’ families were aided during the year closing March 14th, 1865, as follows :

Robert Nixon.....	\$144.00	John A. Platts.....	\$34.00
George A. Smilies.....	144.00	Levi N. Lillie.....	36.00
Daniel P. Osborn.....	144.00	Joseph E. Harkness.....	34.00
Nathan Morse.....	120.00	H. H. Boyce.....	24.00
Elisha Rugg.....	96.00	Elisha Harkness.....	40.00
J. Orlando Stone.....	100.00	John B. Fiske.....	40.00
Abraham H. Richards.....	144.00	Samuel S. Stone.....	96.00
Darius H. Whitcomb.....	96.00	John H. Streeter.....	34.00
Lewis K. Ward.....	96.00	Elisha Morse.....	2.05
Paul Martin.....	68.00		
Daniel H. Reed.....	70.00	Total.....	\$1,562.05

In the same report, among the assets of the town, these items appear :

Due from United States Government.....	\$3118
“ “ State for State aid.....	1244.05

\$4362.05

It would appear from the appropriations of the town during these long years of painful suspense and immense sacrifices at home, in the army, and in the hospitals, that a liberal policy toward the soldiers and their families was pursued from the beginning.

At the annual meeting, March 13th, 1866, the report of the selectmen shows the following disbursements on account of the war, which happily had been brought to a close the previous year.

Bounties paid.....	\$3500
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The soldiers' families aided during the year closing March 13th, 1866, were as follows :

George A. Smilie.....	\$64.00	Elisha Rugg.....	\$47.73
Nathan Morse.....	40.00	Nathan C. Carter.....	47.57
Robert Nixon.....	72.00	Orvis Fisher.....	47.14
Stillman S. Stone.....	27.73	Daniel P. Osborn.....	33.00
Julius O. Stone.....	65.20	Sylvester Boutwell.....	31.48
Darius H. Whitcomb.....	54.00	Ora Holman.....	47.14
Henry H. Boyce.....	18.00	Robert McDonald.....	15.00
Joseph E. Harkness.....	24.00	John A. Platts.....	12.00
Lewis K. Ward.....	47.20		
Abraham H. Richards.....	57.00	Total.....	\$750.19

The United States Government owed the town at the date given above three thousand one hundred and eighteen dollars, and the State four hundred and forty-six dollars and nineteen cents.

In 1865 the town had appointed the three resident clergymen of the place a committee to keep a record of Fitzwilliam in suppressing the Rebellion, but they had declined the service. Accordingly, March 8th, 1870, the town voted :

That a Committee of three be chosen to collect facts in regard to the enlistment, service and death of Soldiers in the late War, of or from this Town, and make report of the same, which report shall be recorded in the Records of the town.

The committee chosen for this purpose consisted of Captain Jonathan S. Adams, George A. Whittemore, and John M. Parker. The chairman, Captain Adams, it is understood, did a large part of the work involved in collecting and arranging the materials of this important report, and appears to have been thorough and painstaking from the beginning to the end of his labor.

Messrs. Whittemore and Parker were in the service of the country, the former as assistant quartermaster, with the rank of captain for a period, while the latter served nearly three years in the field and was first lieutenant of his company when mustered out of the service. In a voluminous report of this nature, there is always a liability to mistakes, but this is deemed to be as reliable as the circumstances would admit of.

All the most important facts set forth in this report are here given, and the order observed in arranging them has been gen-

SOLDIERS IN THE FIRST AND SECOND REGIMENTS. 287

erally followed, while a few corrections have been made and some additional facts incorporated.

FIRST REGIMENT N. H. VOLUNTEERS.

SOLDIERS FOR THREE MONTHS WHO RECEIVED BOUNTIES.

	Bounty.		Bounty.
Daniel S. Brooks	\$25.75	John G. Felch.....	\$27.00
Calvin A. Blodgett...	25.75	Silas L. Heywood.....	25.75
Charles S. Blodgett..	25.75	Danvers Miles.....	25.75
John H. Burrell.....	25.75	George W. Miles	27.00
Daniel E. Burbank...	27.00	Michael McManus.....	27.00
Thaddeus Cummings.	27.00	Willard A. Newton....	25.75
George Coolidge.....	25.75	Thomas J. Richardson..	26.50
William Dunton.....	27.00	Albert G. Stone.....	25.75
Jonas Forristall.....	25.75	Luther D. Wheeler	None.

These eighteen men were the first to enlist from Fitzwilliam for the defence of the country, and, as before stated, the town furnished each of them with a revolver at the cost of \$19.38 each. Messrs. Newton, Stone, and Wheeler were mustered into the service May 3d, 1861, and mustered out of it soon after the expiration of three months, viz., August 9th, 1861.

Fourteen of the above were afterward mustered into the Second Regiment and two into the Sixteenth. One, Mr. Wheeler, was mustered into a Vermont regiment, while the remaining one, Mr. Felch, does not appear to have been mustered in at all.

SECOND REGIMENT N. H. VOLUNTEERS.

SOLDIERS FOR THREE YEARS OR THE WAR, WITHOUT BOUNTIES.

	Co.	Mustered in.	
Daniel S. Brooks.....	A.	May 31, 1861.	Captured at Bull Run, July 21, 1861; died, Oct. 19, 1861, a prisoner at Richmond, Va.
Calvin A. Blodgett....	A.	"	Mustered out, June 21, 1864.
Charles S. Blodgett...	A.	"	Discharged for disability, Sept. 13, 1862.
John H. Burrell	A.	"	Mustered out, June 21, 1864.

SECOND REGIMENT N. H. VOLUNTEERS—(Continued).

	Co.	Mustered in.	
Alfred K. Bowen	A.	May 31, 1861.	Promoted corporal, Dec. 1, 1863 ; mustered out, June 21, 1864.
Daniel E. Burbank . . .	A.	"	Discharged, May 22, 1862.
Thaddeus Cummings . .	A.	"	Discharged for disability, Sept. 12, 1862.
George Coolidge	A.	"	Discharged for disability, Aug. 19, 1861.
William Dunton	A.	"	Promoted corporal ; wounded, Aug. 29, 1862 ; discharged because of wounds, Nov. 6, 1862.
Jonas Forristall	A.	"	Died, Oct. 25, 1862, of disease, at Bladensburg, Md.
Henry M. Gilson	K.	June 8, 1861.	Date of discharge not learned.
Silas L. Heywood	A.	May 31, 1861.	Promoted sergeant, Nov. 1, 1861 ; 2d Lieut., Sept. 1, 1862 ; 1st. Lieut., July 3, 1863 ; mustered out, Jan. 21, 1864.
Danvers Miles	A.	"	Wounded, May 5, 1862 ; discharged, July 30, 1862, on account of wounds.
George W. Miles	A.	"	Killed at Fair Oaks, Va., June 25, 1862.
Michael McManus	A.	"	Wounded, July 2, 1863 ; promoted corporal, Dec. 1, 1863 ; mustered out, June 21, 1864.
Albert G. Stone	A.	Sept. 17, 1861	Wounded, Aug. 29, 1862 ; died, Nov. 2, 1862, from wounds.
Charles A. Stone	A.	"	Mustered out, Sept. 14, 1864.
John M. Stearns	C.	June 1, 1861.	Discharged for disability, Dec., 1862.
Josiah O. Taft	A.	May 31, 1861.	Died, June 30, 1862, of disease, on the retreat near Richmond, Va.

In the Second Regiment were the following who received bounty, \$150 each :

	Co.	Mustered in.	
John B. Fiske	A.	Sept. 18, 1862.	Slightly wounded and missing, July 2, 1863, but returned ; discharged, Dec. 30, 1863.
James Walsh	A.	"	Wounded slightly, Aug. 18, 1864 ; mustered out, June 14, 1865.

James O. Amadon was reported as enlisted from Fitzwilliam in the Second Regiment, but his name is not found in the Adjutant-General's Reports. He went in 1861 and served through the war without receiving any injury, but was not legally mustered into service or mustered out.

THIRD REGIMENT N. H. VOLUNTEERS.

FOR THREE YEARS OR THE WAR, WITHOUT BOUNTY.

	Co.	Mustered in.	
George W. Felch	I.	Aug. 24, 1861.	Discharged for disability, Dec. 16, 1861.
Marshall P. Hawkins.	I.	"	Promoted corporal; 1st Sergt., April 11, 1862; 2d Lieut., Aug. 28, 1862; resigned, Nov. 28, 1863.
Joseph E. Harkness...	I.	"	Wounded slightly, July 13, 1863; re-enlisted, Feb. 22, 1864.
John M. Parker.....	I.	"	Promoted 1st Sergt., Oct. 15, 1862; 2d Lieut., June 14, 1863; 1st Lieut., Jan. 6, 1864; mustered out, Oct. 31, 1864.

Soldiers in Third Regiment with bounties :

	Co.	Mustered in.	
Joseph E. Harkness ; re-enlisted. Bounty, \$300.	I.	Feb. 22, 1864.	Wounded severely, May 13, 1864; mustered out, July 20, 1865; whole term of service, 46 mos. 26 days.
Christopher Healy. Bounty, \$700.	I.	Jan. 1, 1864.	Mustered out, July 20, 1865.
Robert Nixon. Boun- ty, \$702.	I.	Jan. 5, 1864.	Slightly wounded, May 13, 1864; accidentally wounded, June 16, 1864; died, July, 1865, at sea, on homeward passage.

FIFTH N. H. REGIMENT.

Enrolled soldiers of Fitzwilliam who were drafted. The following were exempted for disability :

Phillip S. Batcheller,	George J. Fullam,
Amos O. Blanchard,	Levi A. Fuller,
Daniel F. Bowker,	Isaac A. Handy,
James B. Bowker,	Peter Hoose,
Zephaniah A. Boyce,	Charles F. Ingalls,
✓ John H. Brooks,	Daniel Matheson,
John F. Cummings,	Frederic E. Pierce,
Lyman Davis,	Joshua E. Pierce,
George O. Dunton,	Lorenzo Pierce,
Charles E. Emerson,	Osborn H. Platts,
Loammi B. Underwood.	

Edwin Sykes was exempted as an alien ; Robert Brooks, Jr., did not report to the provost-marshal.

The following rendered personal service and received \$300 bounty each :

	Co.	Date of Muster.	
✓ Henry H. Boyce.....	F.	Oct. 3, 1863.	Promoted corporal, Oct. 23, 1864 ; captured, Mar. 25, 1865 ; paroled, Mar. 30, 1865 ; mustered out, June 24, 1865.
Alpheus Handy.....	E.	"	Missing at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, 1864, but returned ; discharged by order, June 16, 1865 ; lost an arm.
Philander Martin....	C.	"	Wounded, June 5, 1864 ; discharged by order, June 3, 1865.
Abraham H. Richards,	E.	"	Captured, Aug. 16, 1864, at Flussell's Mills, Va. ; paroled, Sept. 1, 1864 ; discharged, June 8, 1865.

SUBSTITUTES FOR DRAFTED AND ENROLLED MEN. 291

The following drafted men furnished substitutes, for which each received bounty, \$300 :

		Co.	Date of Muster.	
Martin S. Deeth....	Supposed substitute, Pat. Morris.	B.	Oct. 2, 1863.	Killed, June 22, 1864, near Petersburg, Va.
Dexter Richardson..	Supposed substitute, John Mudgett.	F.	Aug. 11, 1864	Deserted near Petersburg, Va., Oct. 28, 1864; recovered from desertion; wounded, Mar. 6, 1865; absent sick, since Mar. 6, 1865; no discharge.
Theophilus W. May.	J. Trimble.	G.	Aug. 19, 1864	Deserted, Sept. 15, 1864, near Petersburg, Va.

Enrolled soldiers, not drafted, who furnished substitutes to fill the quota of Fitzwilliam, for which each received a bounty of \$300 :

	Substitutes.	Co.	Date of Muster, 1864.	
Timothy Blodgett...	F'k. McKee	F.	Sept. 2.	Mustered out, June 28, 1865.
Lyman W. Bowker.	J. P. Haden	B.	Aug. 31.	Mustered out, June 28, 1865.
Charles Byam.....	John Cole..		Aug. 25.	Deserted en route to regiment.
Moses Chaplin.....	J. Baggott.		Aug. 11.	Deserted en route to regiment.
Jonas Damon.....	H. J. Smith	G.	Aug. 31.	Mustered out, June 28, 1865.
Marshall P. Damon.	J. Barrigan.		"	Deserted en route to regiment.
Ira W. Ellis.....	Wm. Waters	C.	Aug. 30.	Deserted, Oct. 11, 1864, near Petersburg, Va.
Gilbert A. Petts....	John Brown		Aug. 22.	Deserted en route to regiment.
George W. Parker..	Aug. Adams	B.	Sept. 2.	Mustered out, June 12, 1865.
Nelson E. Pratt....	Levi Morris	F.	"	Deserted, Dec. 30, 1864, while on furlough from hospital.

	Substitutes.	Co.	Date of Muster 1864.	
John N. Richardson	E. Fazackerly.....	A.	Aug. 23.	Mustered out, June 15, 1865.
William H. Shirley.	Th. Brown.	K.	Aug. 22.	Transferred to Co. H.; deserted to enemy, Dec. 1, 1864.
Edmund Spaulding.	A. Gorham.	C.	Aug. 24.	Missing, April 7, 1865, but returned; mustered out, June 28, 1865.
Joseph H. Streeter..	James Buss.		Aug. 9.	Deserted en route to regiment.
A. J. Streeter.....	Lawr. Tully	G.	"	Captured, April 7, re-captured, April 9, 1865; mustered out, June 28, 1865.
Phinehas Whitcomb	G. Blinville	B.	Sept. 2.	Deserted, Oct. 11, 1864, near Petersburg, Va.
Josiah Wilder, Jr....	Chas. Myers	F.	Sept. 1.	Absent sick, June 28, 1865; no discharge.

The following rendered personal service :

		Co.	Date of Muster, 1864.	
Paul Martin.....	Volunteer'd bounty, \$800.	D.	Jan. 1.	Wounded, June 3, 1864; discharged, Nov. 19, 1864, at De Camp Hospital, New York.

The following men in this regiment received no bounty :

	Co.	Date of Muster.	
Almond G. Lowell...	E.	Oct. 19, 1861.	Mustered out, Oct. 29, 1864.

In the Adjutant-General's Reports the following are credited to Fitzwilliam, but nothing further is known of them :

	Co.	Date of Muster.	
Nelson C. Haskell....	F.	Oct. 23, 1861.	Discharged, Dec. 27, 1862, for disability.
William Haley.....	I.	Aug. 31, 1864.	Discharged, July 10, 1865.

Transferred from Second Regiment U. S. Sharpshooters, January 30th, 1865 :

	Co.	
Nathan Morse.....	I.	Mustered out, June 28, 1865.
Wyman S. White	I.	Discharged, Mar. 6, 1865.

SIXTH REGIMENT N. H. VOLUNTEERS.

MEN FOR THREE YEARS OR THE WAR, WHO RECEIVED NO BOUNTY.

	Co.	Date of Muster.	
Henry J. Amadon....	F.	Nov. 28, 1861.	Wounded, May 13, 1864; mustered out, Nov. 27, 1864.
John L. Church.....	"	"	Died, Sept. 30, 1863, at Nicholasville, Ky.
Asa B. Fiske.....	"	"	Discharged, Nov. 6, 1862, at Alexandria, Va., on account of wounds.
Daniel M. Fiske.	"	"	Killed, Sept. 16, 1862, at Antietam, Md.
Theodore Haskell....	"	Dec. 3, 1861.	Wounded, May 12, 1864; discharged, Dec. 3, 1864.
Fred. C. Lawrence....	"	Nov. 28, 1861.	Died, Jan. 20, 1863, at Troy, N. H.
Paul Martin.....	G.	Dec. 9, 1861.	Discharged, Oct. 18, 1862, at Alexandria, Va.
Elihu L. Morse	F.	Nov. 28, 1861.	Died, Sept. 9, 1863, of disease, at Nicholasville, Ky.
John A. Platts.....	K.	"	Re-enlisted (Jan., 1864?). See after.
Elijah T. Platts.....	"	"	Re-enlisted, Jan. 4, 1864. See after.

SIXTH REGIMENT N. H. VOLUNTEERS—(Continued).

	Co.	Date of Muster.	
Daniel H. Reed.....	F.	Dec. 3, 1861.	Transferred to Co. E, 4th Reg. U.S. Regular Artillery; mustered out, Nov. 27, 1864.
Levi W. Rice.....	"	Nov. 28, 1861.	Discharged, Aug. 23, 1862, at Newport News, Va., for disability.
John H. Streeter....	"	Jan. 14, 1862.	Promoted corporal; wounded, May 6, 1864; mustered out, Jan. 13, 1865.
Sylvanus C. Waters...	"	"	Killed, Sept. 17, 1862, at Antietam, Md.
Lucius Whitcomb....	H.	Nov. 28, 1861.	Transferred to Co. F, Dec. 1, 1861; killed, Aug. 29, 1862, at Bull Run.
George H. Wilson....	"	"	Transferred to Co. F, Dec. 1, 1861; discharged at Newberne, N. C.; re-enlisted, Dec. 25, 1863. See after.
Charles W. Wilson....	"	Dec. 10, 1861.	Deserted Jan. 26, 1863, at Fifth Street Hospital, Philadelphia, Pa.

In the Adjutant-General's Reports the following are credited to Fitzwilliam, but nothing further is known of them :

	Co.	Date of Muster.	
James L. Demary, Jr.	H.	Nov. 28, 1861.	Transferred to Co. F, Dec. 1, 1861; discharged for disability at Baltimore, Md.
Morris Howard		June 2, 1864.	Supposed to have deserted en route to regiment.

FOR THREE YEARS OR THE WAR, WHO RECEIVED BOUNTIES.

	Co.	Date of Muster.	Bounty.	
Charles Brown.....		Dec. 31, 1863.	\$580	Deserted en route to regiment.
Abram Corey.....	F.	Dec. 30, 1863.	700	Absent sick, since April 28, 1864; no discharge furnished.

SOLDIERS IN THE SIXTH AND NINTH REGIMENTS. 295

	Co.	Date of Muster.	Bounty.	
John Conner.....	G.	Dec. 31, 1863.	\$580	Deserted, Feb. 3, 1864, at Camp Nelson, Ky.
Louis Hanson		Dec. 30, 1863.	580	Deserted en route to regi- ment.
John Johnson.....	G.	Dec. 31, 1863.	580	Promoted corporal, July 1, 1865; mustered out, July 17, 1865.
Charles B. Perkins..	F.	Dec. 30, 1863.	700	Transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps, Jan. 20, 1865; discharged, June 7, 1865.
Elisha Rugg.....	F.	"	700	Wounded, June 17, 1864; mustered out, July 17, 1865.

Re-enlisted men :

	Co.	Date of Muster.	Bounty.	
Elijah T. Platts	K.	Jan. 4, 1864.	\$300	Promoted serg't; quar- termaster-serg't, July 1, 1864; mustered out, July 17, 1865.
John A. Platts.....	K.	....	300	Promoted sergeant, July 1, 1864; 1st lieut., June 1, 1865; mustered out, July 17, 1865.
George H. Wilson...	F.	Dec. 25, 1863.	300	Killed in battle, May 4, 1864.

NINTH N. H. REGIMENT.

FOR THREE YEARS OR THE WAR; RECEIVED NO BOUNTY.

	Co.	Date of Muster.	
George A. Smilie.....	I.	Aug. 19, 1862.	Reported deserted, Sept. 17, 1862, at Antietam, Md., but was recovered; discharged, June 10, 1865.

Drafted man ; received bounty, \$300.

	Co.	Date of Muster.	
Lewis K. Ward.....	B.	June 6, 1864.	Transferred to Co. B, 6th N. H. Reg. June 1, 1865; mustered out, July 17, 1865.

Enrolled soldiers, not drafted, who furnished substitutes to fill the quota of Fitzwilliam, for which each received a bounty of \$300.

		Co.	Date of Muster.	
L. R. Angier....	N. Heath ...	A.	Aug. 25, 1864.	Transferred to Co. A, Sixth N. H. Reg., June 1, 1865; mustered out, July 17, 1865.
E. Cummings...	John Garvin	C.	"	Deserted en route to regiment.
Dustin A. Gee...	Jas. Woolsey	A.	Aug. 24, 1864.	Missing, Sept. 30, 1864, at Poplar Grove Church, Va., but was recovered; transferred to Co. A, Sixth N. H., June 1, 1865; mustered out, July 17, 1865.
L. Richardson...	J. Furgurson	A.	Aug. 25, 1864.	Same as Woolsey.
John W. Shirley	G. Mendon..	K.	Aug. 24, 1864.	Transferred to Co. K, Sixth N. H., June 1, 1865; promoted corporal, June 10, 1865; mustered out, July 17, 1865.
H. B. Streeter...	E. Rochette.		June 14, 1864.	Deserted en route to regiment.
Caleb Sweetser..	Geo. Tenry.		Aug. 25, 1864.	Deserted en route to regiment.
Anson Streeter..	J. Thomas, colored.			Transferred to Nineteenth U. S. Colored Regiment.

FOURTEENTH REGIMENT N. H. VOLUNTEERS.

MEN FOR THREE YEARS OR THE WAR, WITH BOUNTIES AS STATED.

L. K. Wheeler was in Co. A, all the others in Co. C.

	Date of Muster.	Bounty.	
Benjamin W. Byam...	Sept. 22, 1862.		Discharged for disability at Washington, Feb. 28, 1863.
Amos W. Brooks....	"	\$125	Died at Annapolis Junction, Md., Jan. 14, 1865.
George W. Felch....	"	125	Promoted corporal, Jan. 27, 1864; 1st serg't, June 12, 1864; killed at Winchester, Va., Sept. 19, 1864.
Thomas D. Hayden..	"	125	Mustered out, July 8, 1865.
Thomas F. Holman..	Sept. 23, 1862.	125	Promoted corporal, Oct. 1, 1864; discharged, July 8, 1865; died, July 29, 1865.
Daniel Harris.....	"		Wounded, Oct. 19, 1864; mustered out, July 8, 1865.
Levi N. Lillie.....	Dec. 15, 1863.	700	Died of disease at David's Island, N. Y., Sept. 15, 1864.
Daniel P. Osborn....	Sept. 22, 1862.	125	Discharged, May 23, 1865.
Joseph H. Ramsdell..	"	125	Discharged for disability at Washington, Oct. 8, 1863.
Samuel S. Stone.....	Sept. 23, 1862.	125	Wounded severely, Oct. 19, 1864; discharged at Manchester, N. H., on account of wounds, July 4, 1865.
Julius O. Stone.....	Dec. 15, 1863.	702	Mustered out, July 8, 1865.
Wright Whitcomb....	Sept. 22, 1862.	125	Promoted corporal, Jan. 8, 1864; wounded severely, Oct. 19, 1864; transferred to Veteran Reserve Corps, Jan. 28, 1865; mustered out, Sept. 21, 1865.
Darius H. Whitcomb.	"	125	Wounded, Sept. 19, 1864; discharged for disability, May 27, 1865.
Joseph Whipple	Dec. 22, 1864.	200	Mustered out, July 8, 1865.
Robert Walton.....	Sept. 22, 1862.	125	Died of disease, at Savannah, Ga., July 3, 1865.
Lyman K. Wheeler...	"	125	Wounded slightly, Sept. 19, 1864; mustered out, July 8, 1865.

Lorenzo A. Putnam received \$300 for furnishing a substitute, viz.:

Edward F. Fuller, mustered in, Sept. 12, 1864; mustered out, July 8, 1865.

SIXTEENTH REGIMENT N. H. VOLUNTEERS.

MEN FOR NINE MONTHS, WITH BOUNTIES OF \$100 EACH.

All served in Co. F, and were mustered into service, Oct. 23, 1862.

John S. Adams..... Left sick at Cairo, Ill., Aug. 9, 1863, en route for home; died at Mound City Hospital, Aug. 16, 1863; mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Charles S. Blodgett*.... Wagoner; mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Elliot F. Ellis. Died of disease at New Orleans, La., June 9, 1863.
 Levi A. Forristall..... Died of disease at New Orleans, La., June 17, 1863.
 Charles T. Heywood.... Died at Port Hudson, La., July 31, 1863.
 Frederic H. Haskell.... Mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Ransom Handy..... Died at Port Hudson, La., Aug. 1, 1863.
 Elisha Harkness..... Died at Brashear City, La., May 31, 1863.
 James M. Ingalls..... Mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Charles R. Monroe. Mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Charles Newton..... Mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Willard A. Newton.... Mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Edward P. Phillips.... Promoted sergeant; mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Charles H. Parker..... Promoted corporal; died at Butte La Rose, La., May 16, 1863.
 Thomas J. Richardson.. Promoted sergeant; discharged at New Orleans, La., June 6, 1863; died at sea, coming home.
 Leander Richardson.... Discharged at New York before the regiment embarked for the South.
 D. Henry Reed..... Promoted corporal; mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Joseph E. Stone..... Died of disease at Brashear City, La., June 5, 1863.
 Amos T. Towns..... Mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Loammi B. Underwood. Sick at Boston; did not join the regiment; mustered out, Aug. 20, 1863.
 Charles H. Woods..... Captain of Co. F; discharged, Aug. 20, 1863.

FIRST N. H. HEAVY ARTILLERY VOLUNTEERS.

FOR THREE YEARS OR THE WAR; BOUNTY, \$400.

Orrin Brewer, Co. H, mustered in, Sept. 3, 1864; mustered out, June 15, 1865.

FIRST REGIMENT N. H. CAVALRY VOLUNTEERS.

FOR THREE YEARS; BOUNTY, \$600.

Henry J. Richardson, Troop L, mustered in, Jan. 4, 1864; mustered out, July 15, 1865.

* Substitute for Sylvender B. Forristall.

For one year; bounty, \$500 :

Nathan C. Carter.....	} All mustered in, Mar. 2 (22 ?), 1865, and served in Troop F. Adjutant-General's Report says of Fisher: "Supposed to have deserted en route to regiment," but he died of disease at Fortress Monroe. All the others mustered out, July 15, 1865.
Orvis Fisher.....	
Ora Holman.....	
William H. Holman..	
Robert McDonald....	
George Putney.....	

SECOND REGIMENT U. S. SHARPSHOOTERS VOLUNTEERS.

FOR THREE YEARS OR THE WAR, WITHOUT BOUNTY.

All mustered in, Nov. 26, 1861, and served in Co. F.

Henry H. Boyce.....	Discharged for disability, May 18, 1862. See under Fifth N. H. Regiment.
Warren I. Boyce.....	Discharged for disability, May 19, 1862.
Daniel Chase.....	Discharged for disability, Mar. 15, 1862.
Charles H. Forristall....	Discharged, Nov. 26, 1864.
Nathan Morse.....	Re-enlisted, Dec. 21, 1863; transferred to Co. I, Fifth N. H., Jan. 30, 1865. See under Fifth Regiment.
Wyman S. White.....	Promoted corporal, Nov. 2, 1863; re-enlisted, Dec. 21, 1863; promoted sergeant, Oct. 14, 1864; 1st sergeant, Jan. 25, 1865; transferred to Fifth N. H., Jan. 30, 1865. See under Fifth Regiment.
Charles B. Wilson.....	Re-enlisted, Dec. 21, 1863; promoted 2d lieutenant, Nineteenth U. S. Colored Regiment, Aug. 11, 1864.
Wm. Albert Withington.	Died of disease, at Washington, D. C., Jan. 4, 1862.

At re-enlistment Wilson received bounty \$400, White received \$400, and Morse received \$300.

The quota of soldiers required of Fitzwilliam from and after Aug. 28, 1862, was 66 men for three years or the war, and 22 men for nine months, making total number required, 88.

The town furnished 68 men for three years or the war, and 21 for nine months, making the total number furnished 89, being a surplus of one.

The foregoing list gives a larger number of three-years' men, since it includes all those assigned to Fitzwilliam in the reports of the Adjutant-General and a few Fitzwilliam men that he assigns to other towns.

FITZWILLIAM MEN IN THE UNITED STATES REGULAR SERVICE.

George A. Whittemore..	Commissioned assistant quartermaster, May 18, 1864, with rank of captain; mustered out, Dec. 8, 1865.
Charles B. Wilson.....	Commissioned 2d lieutenant of Nineteenth Regiment of Colored Soldiers, Aug. 11, 1864.
Daniel H. Reed.....	Wagoner, Co. F, Sixth Regiment N. H.; transferred to Horse Artillery, Co. E, Fourth Regiment U. S. Regular Artillery; mustered out, Oct. 11, 1864.
John Thomas.....	Colored substitute for Anson Streeter; transferred to a colored regiment in the U. S. service.

FITZWILLIAM MEN WHO ENLISTED IN OTHER STATES.

Ethan Blodgett, Twenty-first Mass., Co. A.	John McManus, Mass.
Walter A. Brooks, Mass.	Henry C. Perkins, Twenty-first Mass.
Daniel W. Chase, Thirty-fifth Mass.	George A. Platts, N. Y.
Edward B. Ellis, Mass.	Wm. W. Stone, First Mass.
George H. Ellis, Mass.	Luther D. Wheeler, Vt.
Warren I. Ellis, Fifteenth Mass.	Benjamin Whitcomb, Fifteenth Mass.
Andrew Fisher, Fifteenth Mass.	Francis L. Whitney, Thirty-sixth Mass., Co. D.
Luther W. Gowen, Mass.	Nelson G. Woods, Mass.
Charles W. Hayden, Thirty-fifth Mass.	

SUMMARY.

Excluding the three-months' men, the number named in the foregoing tables is 172, apportioned as follows :

Second New Hampshire Regiment, Infantry.....	22
Third " " "	7
Fifth " " "	31
Sixth " " "	29
Ninth " " "	10
Fourteenth " " "	17
Sixteenth " " "	21
First " " Cavalry	8
First " " Artillery	1
Second Regiment U. S. Sharpshooters.....	8
In Massachusetts regiments.....	15
In Vermont "	1
In New York "	1
Assistant Quartermaster U. S. Service.....	1
	<hr/> 172
Deduct those who are counted twice from serving in two regiments	11
	<hr/> 161
Making the whole number of different persons to be..	161

GENERAL RECORD OF THE FITZWILLIAM SOLDIERS :

Second Regiment : In Co. A 19 men won a good record ; 1 deserted from Co. K ; 2 only received bounties from the town.

Third Regiment : The record of the 7 men from Fitzwilliam was not tarnished. To 3 of these the town paid bounties.

Fifth Regiment : Four drafted men served ; 2 drafted sent substitutes, and 17 enrolled men furnished substitutes. Of the 19 substitutes 10 deserted, and 7 served more or less.*

Sixth Regiment : Ten received bounties ; 3 deserted, but 5 served to good purpose.

Ninth Regiment : Had 9 substitutes, of whom 3 deserted ; 4 had a fair record, and 1, a colored man, was transferred to a U. S. colored regiment.

Fourteenth Regiment : Most of the 17 credited to Fitzwilliam belonged here. None deserted ; 12 lived to reach their homes, and 5 died, including T. F. Holman, who was discharged a few days before his death.

Sixteenth Regiment : The 21 enlisting from Fitzwilliam belonged here ; 2 of these failed of embarking with the regiment for Louisiana ; 10 barely lived to reach their homes, while 9 died.

FULL SUMMARY OF BOUNTIES :

First Regiment, bounties and extra expenses.....	\$765.25
Second " " " " "	300.00
Third " " " " "	1,702.00
Fifth " " " " "	8,800.00
Sixth " " " " "	5,320.00
Ninth " " " " "	2,700.00
Fourteenth " " " " "	3,277.00
Sixteenth " " " " "	2,100.00
N. H. Artillery, " " " " "	400.00
First N. H. Cavalry, " " " " "	4,100.00

Total.....\$29,464.25

This amount does not include other expenses occasioned by the war, as follows : Extra services by the selectmen, and

* After the close of the war, John P. Hayden, substitute for Lyman W. Bowker, came to Fitzwilliam for the sole purpose of seeing the man for whom he had served in the conflict.

travelling expenses while making enlistments, etc., as appears by the selectmen's report to the town at the close of the war, \$469.12.

This will make the total expense of the town.....\$29,933.37

Of this sum, bounties reimbursed by

State..... \$1,500.00

Bounties reimbursed by U. S..... 886.00 2,386.00

Total expenditure by the town.....\$27,547.37

The \$1500 noted above as refunded by the State is understood to have been for bounties advanced by the town.

About ten years later, under a scheme of equalization, New Hampshire paid the town of Fitzwilliam \$7900 in State bonds, which were used in paying off an equal amount of town bonds.

In general, the amount paid out to aid soldiers' families was refunded by the State year by year, though this could hardly have been the case at first, since the town appears to have pledged the aid in question before the State moved in the matter.

During the Rebellion, large supplies were sent by the Ladies' Association, by families, and by individuals, for the comfort and general welfare of the soldiers, regarding which no record was made. These supplies consisted of clothing, food, medicines, delicacies for the sick, etc., while in many cases large expenses were incurred because of the sickness and mortality among the soldiers.

It should be added, also, that the sums paid by individuals for substitutes in the army often, if not always, largely exceeded the bounties received from the town.

The following are the names of those who died in service while suppressing the Rebellion :

John S. Adams, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.

Daniel S. Brooks, Co. A, Second Regiment.

Amos W. Brooks, Co. C, Fourteenth Regiment.

Walter A. Brooks, Massachusetts Volunteers.

John L. Church, Co. F, Sixth Regiment.

George W. Felch, Co. C, Fourteenth Regiment.

Orvis Fisher, Troop F, First Cavalry.

Thomas F. Holman, Co. C, Fourteenth Regiment.

Elisha Harkness, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.

Charles T. Heywood, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.

Ransom Handy, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.	Daniel M. Fiske, Co. F, Sixth Regiment.
Levi N. Lillie, Co. C, Fourteenth Regiment.	Thomas J. Richardson, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.
Fred. C. Lawrence, Co. F, Sixth Regiment.	Levi W. Rice, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.
Elihu L. Morse, Co. F, Sixth Regiment.	Albert G. Stone, Co. A, Second Regiment.
George W. Miles, Co. A, Second Regiment.	Joseph E. Stone, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.
John McManus, Massachusetts Volunteers.	William W. Stone, Massachusetts Volunteers.
Patrick Morris, Co. B, Fifth Regiment.	Josiah O. Taft, Co. A, Second Regiment.
Robert Nixon, Co. I, Third Regiment.	Sylvanus C. Waters, Co. F, Sixth Regiment.
Charles H. Parker, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.	Lucius Whitcomb, Co. H, Sixth Regiment.
George H. Ellis, Massachusetts Volunteers.	George H. Wilson, Co. H, Sixth Regiment.
Elliot F. Ellis, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.	Robert Walton, Co. C, Fourteenth Regiment.
Jonas Forristall, Co. A, Second Regiment.	Francis L. Whitney, Massachusetts Volunteers.
Levi A. Forristall, Co. F, Sixteenth Regiment.	Albert W. Withington, Co. F, U. S. S.
	Total, 36.

THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT ASSOCIATION.

This was organized February 2d, 1866, and its name indicates its object. The first officers were: President, Rev. W. L. Gaylord; Vice-President, Rev. G. W. Cutting; Secretary, Stephen Batcheller; Treasurer, Joel Whittemore; Directors, George W. Simonds, Samuel Kendall, Amos J. Blake, John M. Parker, and Norman U. Cahill. A co-operating committee, consisting of one gentleman and one lady for each school district, was appointed, and the association entered at once upon the work of raising funds for the erection of a suitable soldiers' monument. For this purpose, and to awaken, if possible, a deeper and more general interest in the matter, a lecture was given in the Town Hall, November 25th, 1869, by Colonel Carroll D. Wright, of Boston, formerly of the Fourteenth Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers. The subject was "The Shenandoah Campaign." Colonel Wright declined any compensation for his services.

In April, 1870, the funds in the treasury of the association

amounted to five hundred and forty-six dollars and ninety-one cents, and the town having appropriated one thousand dollars in aid of the object, a contract for making and erecting a monument was made with a returned soldier. By a vote of the town, the monument stands in the village park. It is composed of four pieces of granite, viz., the base, which is plain, the plinth with a mould upon the top containing the inscription in raised letters, "Soldiers who Died for their Country in the Rebellion of 1861," the die, upon which are cut in raised letters, within sunken panels, the names of thirty-three soldiers to whose memory the monument was erected, and the shaft, upon one side of which are two swords crossed in raised work, and on the opposite side the inscription in raised letters, "1871. What we do for them may be forgotten. What they did for us, never."

As a committee to act in conjunction with the committee of the town, to arrange for the dedication of the monument, Messrs. George W. Davis and Norman U. Cahill were appointed on the part of the association.

It was dedicated, with appropriate services, July 4th, 1871. At 10 A.M. a procession was formed upon the Common under the direction of John M. Parker, Chief Marshal, as follows :

1. The Swanzey brass band.
2. A company of twenty-five returned soldiers.
3. Thirty-seven young ladies, dressed in white, representing the States of the Union.
4. Citizens generally.

The exercises took place in the park, under the direction of Dr. A. R. Gleason, President of the day. Amos J. Blake, Esq., was Toast Master. After music the Chairman of the Town Monument Committee, O. L. Brock, in an appropriate address, presented the monument to the town. It was accepted on the part of the town by Norman U. Cahill, Chairman of the Selectmen, who made an address. Selections from the Scriptures were then read by Rev. E. H. Watrous. Prayer was offered by Rev. John F. Norton. The Declaration of Independence was read by Lewis M. Norton.

United States Senator, Hon. J. W. Patterson, who had been



THE PARK AND SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.

engaged to speak on the occasion, having been delayed on his way to Fitzwilliam, addresses were made by Rev. J. F. Norton, J. J. Allen, Esq., Rev. E. H. Watrous, Charles Bigelow, Ezra S. Stearns, Amos A. Parker, John N. Richardson, J. S. Adams, Esqs., Dr. Silas Cummings, and others. A pleasing feature of the dedication was the presence of the youth and children, in large numbers, from each of the schools in the town. At noon a bountiful collation was served, and this was followed in the afternoon by the toasts and addresses.

This record of "Fitzwilliam in suppressing the great Rebellion" is necessarily incomplete after the lapse of twenty-two years since the close of the war, but the incidents that follow will give a more vivid impression of the stern nature of the conflict and of the self-denial and suffering involved in sustaining it, than can be gained from the preceding statements and tables.

What immediately follows has been furnished in substance by O. L. Brock, Esq.

In the Fourteenth Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers were fifteen men from Fitzwilliam. Embarking March 20th, 1864, for New Orleans, they encountered a terrible storm of fifty-six hours' duration, which disabled their steamer, the Daniel Webster, and left them at the mercy of the winds and waves. They were finally rescued, however, and after being for a short time in the Department of the Gulf, they were transferred to Sheridan's army in the Shenandoah Valley. By a mistake the division in which the Fourteenth Regiment had been placed was unexpectedly exposed to a most fearful fire of shot and shell, when one hundred and sixty men were killed in thirty minutes, George W. Felch, of Fitzwilliam, being of the number. Stillman S. Stone captured a prisoner and took him with him when retreating. Darius H. Whitcomb did the same, but was obliged to shoot his prisoner, while he, the prisoner, was trying to escape. Later, when the Confederate Army had captured eighteen pieces of artillery and thousands of prisoners, and thought their victory sure, came Sheridan's famous movements, when the guns were recaptured and as many more taken, with many prisoners. In that fight Stillman

S. Stone received a ball in his arm and right side and was taken prisoner, but later was recaptured. His shattered arm was saved without amputation. Wright Whitcomb was wounded in the hand, a piece of a shell carried away his canteen, and he had three bullet-holes through his clothes.

The celebrated poem, "Sheridan's Ride," commemorates this remarkable exploit.

Among the first to enter the army from Fitzwilliam in 1861 was William Dunton. He was in the first Bull Run battle, and in all the encounters on the Virginia Peninsula, from Williamsburg to Harrison's Landing. Later, in the second Bull Run fight, he was struck by a ball on the right cheek, which, passing through his mouth so as to break up the bone and teeth of the entire upper jaw, came out just below the eye on the left cheek. Mr. Dunton fell, and was left by his comrades as dead, when, shortly after, they were obliged to retreat. Being now a prisoner, he was stripped of nearly all his clothes and of almost everything he had by the enemy, and left to die. Finding his mouth and throat fast filling up from the swelling of the mangled flesh, he succeeded in getting his knife from his pocket and deliberately cut away the torn flesh, and so cleared his mouth as far as possible.

Hours now passed, and so did nights and days, and no relief was at hand. He could not cry out or even speak aloud, and could not have swallowed a morsel of food or a drop of water if he had had either.

For six days and nights he endured what must have been agony, but on the morning of the seventh day he was discovered by a party of our own men who were burying the dead. He was still alive, but so weak that the men at first despaired of his living till he could be removed to a hospital. Faint and exhausted he was at length placed in the hands of the surgeons at Washington, five of whom decided that no human skill could save him. Still, desiring to give him a chance for recovery, they dressed his wounds, inserted a small tube in his throat, and finally succeeded in having him swallow a few drops of brandy, which revived him. Mr. Dunton was fed in this way for more than a month, and still lives, after more than

twenty years, to tell the story of his sufferings, and to remind all who meet him of the enormous cost involved in saving our country.

Second New Hampshire Regiment. As the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment was the first from that State to engage in deadly encounter with the Rebellion, so the Second New Hampshire Regiment was the first from this State to meet the foe in the terrible strife, and it was engaged in nearly all the battles in Virginia, from the first at Bull Run to the fall of Richmond. Fitzwilliam was largely represented in this regiment, and nearly one half of those who went from this town and belonged to it, were either killed, wounded, or died in prison. Daniel S. Brooks died in Libby Prison, at Richmond, Va., while others died of wounds or disease. The record of all the men from Fitzwilliam in this regiment is very honorable.

The Third New Hampshire Regiment had its first experience in the war when ordered to attack a strong battery near Secessionville, in South Carolina, from which the attacking forces had been three times repulsed, and lost one hundred and four men in the conflict.

Later it was one of the regiments that made the famous sunrise attack upon Morris Island, when eleven siege guns and two hundred prisoners were captured. In the siege of Fort Wagner that immediately followed, Lieutenant John M. Parker, of Fitzwilliam, commanded Company I, and the Third New Hampshire Regiment was given the post of danger and honor. A most desperate resistance was anticipated, but when the regiment advanced the next morning to charge upon the fort, it was found deserted, and the victory gained was bloodless.

In Florida many of the recruits that had been sent to this regiment deserted to the enemy, and one of these, taken while attempting to desert the second time, was tried and shot, Lieutenant Parker as acting adjutant reading to him his death-warrant. There were no more desertions.

The regiment at a later period did effective service in Virginia, and lost in the terrible encounter at Drury's Bluff many of its brave men.

The Sixth Regiment was organized at Keene and first met the enemy at Camden, S. C. Later it took part in nearly all the battles in Virginia (in one encounter capturing seven officers and one hundred and six men), and suffered severely through the unfortunate explosion at Petersburg. In one of the attacks upon the works in that city, one hundred and fifty men started but only fifty entered the works.

This regiment left Keene with one thousand and forty-six men, and four hundred and eight more were added as recruits, but it returned with only four hundred and eighty-three men, and of these but ninety-eight belonged to the regiment originally. It participated in twenty-two battles. At Antietam this with a Maryland regiment carried a bridge by storm that had resisted many attacks, and General Griffin was the first man to cross it.

While in Virginia a negro servant was stooping over to stir his coffee, when a spent cannon-ball came rolling along and struck the negro on the back of the head, but after tumbling about for a time he jumped up, scratched his head, and finished his preparation of his coffee.

The Sixteenth New Hampshire Regiment had one captain and nineteen men from Fitzwilliam, and was sent to New Orleans, and after having been encamped at various places was ordered into the lowlands, that were full of malaria, where nearly all were sick and many died. Eleven only reached home, and of these two died at a later period. The history of these men is a sad one, but they were loyal, and did their duty under the most trying circumstances. See the Roll Record.

Three men are now living in Fitzwilliam who served in the Fifteenth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers, viz., Andrew Fisher, Benjamin Whitcomb, and Charles F. Pope. Mr. Pope is not a native of Fitzwilliam, but settled in town soon after the close of the war. Mr. Fisher is a native of the town. Mr. Whitcomb is not a native of the town, but resided here before the war. Mr. Whitcomb was wounded in the hip at Fair Oaks. Mr. Fisher was promoted to sergeant and from sergeant to captain. He was highly recommended by his su-

perior officers to Governor Andrew, of Massachusetts, for promotion, and in the battle at Ball's Bluff was one of the last to retreat, and this he did, taking off his coat, jumping into the river and swimming to the opposite shore. His hat was riddled with bullets. At Antietam he was wounded in the shoulder, and at Gettysburg he was captured, and was in Libby Prison for months. Mr. Fisher participated in forty-seven battles and skirmishes.

Warren I. Ellis, son of George W. Ellis, was one of four brothers who enlisted, two of whom died in the service, and the other two have since died of disease contracted while fighting for their country. Warren I. Ellis served in the Fifteenth Massachusetts Regiment, and when the Union forces were compelled to retreat after the battle of Ball's Bluff he, with hundreds of others, plunged into the Potomac and swam to an island in the stream. Mr. Ellis lost all his clothing and money, and slept under a haystack during the night that followed the battle. He was severely wounded in the shoulder at the battle of Antietam, and, after recovery, was transferred to the signal service, in which he remained till his discharge.

Ethan Blodgett enlisted July 19th, 1861, from Phillipston, Mass., and served in Company A, Captain George P. Hawkes, of the Twenty-first Massachusetts Regiment, Colonel A. Maggi. This regiment was in the second Burnside expedition, and participated in the engagements at Annapolis Junction and Roanoke Island. In the assault upon the rebel intrenchments at Roanoke Island, the Twenty-first Massachusetts and the Fifty-first New York were the first within the works, the first Union flag planted being the State flag of the Twenty-first Massachusetts. The Massachusetts official reports say that "the gallant Ethan Blodgett bore the flag, and planted it first on the rebel breastworks."

The *National Tribune*, a newspaper published at Washington, D. C., has for some time given considerable prominence to reminiscences of the war. In a recent number, Colonel Hawkins, of the Ninth New York Regiment (Hawkins's Zouaves), claimed for his regiment so prominent a position in

this engagement as to call out several communications in reply. One correspondent says :

The Ninth New York Zouaves did not charge the fort until the works had been carried by the Twenty-first Massachusetts and part of the Fifty-first New York. The State flag of the Twenty-first Massachusetts was the first to be planted on the works.

Another correspondent adds :

Captain Ethan Blodgett was the man who carried it.

In the spring of 1862 Mr. Blodgett was taken sick, and was sent North to the hospital at Boston. He did not recover his health, and as there seemed to be no prospect that he would be able to return to the army, he was discharged, September 29th, 1862.

Benjamin F. Potter came to Fitzwilliam a short time before the commencement of the war. He served fourteen months in the Thirty-sixth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers, and has lived in town since his discharge.

But if Fitzwilliam furnished a large company of men, not a few of whom proved themselves to be heroes in the great Civil War, the patriotic devotion and suffering of those trying years were not confined to them ; for, among the mothers, sisters, and daughters who remained at home and prayed and labored for the success of right, there were as patient and self-denying souls as ever lived, while among the sick, wounded, and dying in the field, this town had a heroine.

The facts that follow regarding Miss Hannah A. Adams, of this town, daughter of Captain J. S. Adams, were first given to the public some years since, in a volume entitled " Woman's Work in the Civil War," a book that has had far less circulation than it deserves. The whole of that interesting narrative, which is too long for insertion here, will well repay perusal.

Miss Adams, who became a school teacher at an early age, went West in 1856, hoping by the change of climate to check a predisposition to a pulmonary difficulty that had threatened her health and, possibly, her life.

The breaking out of the Rebellion found her a teacher in one of the public schools of St. Louis, Mo., in which capacity she was eminently successful, but, in common with all the

teachers from New England in that city, she lost her situation soon after hostilities commenced, most of the members of the Board of Education and others controlling the school funds being strong secessionists.

This cruel treatment only made Miss Adams more intensely loyal, and when the Ladies' Union Aid Society of St. Louis was formed in August, 1861, she not only assisted in the organization, but was chosen its first secretary, an office which demanded untiring industry and patience as well as great executive ability. This office she filled for more than three years. In the autumn of 1863, her only brother, a soldier from Fitzwilliam, died in the service.* Hastening to the hospital at Mound City, Ill., where she knew he had been under surgical treatment, and full of hope that he might recover under her tender care, she found that he was already dead and buried. From this time forth her interest in the wounded and sick of the Union forces became, if possible, more intense, and nothing was too hard for her to undertake that promised the sufferers any measure of relief.

The stores of the Ladies' Union Aid Society and of the Western Sanitary Commission, to which she had access, were then large, and their rooms were open every day. Hundreds of the most patriotic and efficient women of St. Louis and vicinity were ready to aid in all possible ways, but, as a matter of course, their ready and self-denying secretary had the heaviest part of the burden to bear. Hospital garments had to be received or manufactured, and then arranged and given out in the hospitals, and to the sick and wounded in the regimental camps, not only in and around the city, but in other parts of the State and region. Advice must be given, applications for aid answered, accounts kept, reports made, sanitary stores collected, and a thousand other matters of great importance attended to, all of which found Miss Adams ready for service and competent to meet the incessant demands that were made upon her patience and judgment.

* John S. Adams, of Fitzwilliam, Co. F, 16th Reg. N. H. Volunteers, enlisted for nine months, served 9 months, 23 days. Left sick at Cairo, Ill., Aug. 9, 1863, on his way home, and died at Mound City Hospital, Aug. 16, 1863.

What she did for soldiers' families and for the widows and orphans, made by the war, in providing shelter, food, clothing, and employment, cannot here be recorded, but thousands of these are now living to bless her memory. During the entire war St. Louis was crowded with troops, and in 1862 there were twenty thousand sick and wounded soldiers in the hospitals of that city and vicinity. In ministering to these in all the various ways that only a woman's heart could devise, Miss Adams found a field for the most self-denying effort. In 1863 she went to Nashville, Tenn., to open a special diet kitchen upon which requisitions could be made for the delicate articles of food that the very feeble and dangerously sick and wounded soldiers required ; and while in that city she secured the opening of the hospitals there to female nurses who had not previously been employed in them. The difficulties to be surmounted in this effort were many and great, for the prejudices against such an innovation were strong, but all yielded at length to her good common-sense, womanly instincts, and persuasive manner.

Resuming her work in St. Louis early in 1864, she was constantly at her post till the end of the year, when she resigned her position, retaining the warmest affection of those with whom she had so long labored, and in the month of June, 1865, she became the wife of Morris Collins, Esq., of St. Louis.

CHAPTER XIII.

EDUCATIONAL.

School Lands Leased—First Schools—Early Teachers—Discipline—Branches Taught—Supervision—Committees—Reports—Common-School Association—Lyceum—Farmers' and Mechanics' Club—Musical—Temperance Societies—Libraries.

THE fathers planted the school-house by the side of the church, knowing full well that ignorance and vice are associated together the world over.

This fact was so well understood that the Masonian proprietors, in the disposal of their property, always stipulated in their grants that provision should be made in the division of the lands for the education of the children of the settlers. As we have seen, in the grant to Sampson Stoddard and others in 1765, of Monadnock No. 4, it was made a condition that one share, viz., two lots of one hundred acres each, should be set apart and reserved forever for school purposes.

The lots drawn for this purpose were No. 3 in Range 1 and No. 11 in Range 5. The former was located in the southeast part of the town upon the boundary of Rindge, the third lot from the line of Massachusetts. The latter was southeast of the central village, the Templeton road passing through it about half a mile below the house of Nahum Hayden.

The school lands, like the ministerial, could not be sold, but could be leased for a long term of years.

At a proprietors' meeting held May 21st, 1777, Captain John Mellen, Lieutenant Levi Brigham, and Joseph Grow were chosen a committee "to Dispose of the Ministerial and school lands and make returns at y^e next Proprietors' meeting."

It does not appear that this committee did anything; and at the next meeting, May 20th, 1778, Samuel Patrick, John Mellen, and Levi Brigham were chosen a committee "to dispose of the Ministerial and School Lands as they shall Think

Proper." This committee acted promptly, and within a month had leased the two ministerial lots and the school lot No. 11 in Range 5. The lease first recorded in the Proprietors' Record Book reads as follows :

This Indenture Witnesseth That we Samuel Patrick John Mellen and Levi Brigham All of Fitzwilliam in the County of Cheshire and State of New Hampshire Being Chosen a Committee for the Purpose of Disposing of the Ministerial and School Land in Said Town at A Legal Meeting of the Proprietors of Said Township held the Twentieth Day of May one Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight : we the Said Committee Do therefore In the Name and Behalf of Said Proprietors Dispose of the following Land agreeable to A Vote Passed at s^d meeting : That is we Do hereby Releas Remise and Quit claim unto Samuel Osborn of Said Fitzwilliam Yeoman : one half of the Lot No Eleven in the fifth Range in Said Town it Being the Southerly Part of the School Lot so Call'd : He the Said Samuel Osborn his Heirs and Assigns To Have Hold and Improve Said Land with the Appurtinances and *Priviledges* thereunto Belonging : During the Term of Nine Hundred and Ninety nine Years He or they Paying Annually To Said Proprietors Treasurer and his Soccessors the Interest of Forty two Pounds Ten Shillings L. M. at the Rate of Six per cent : Said Interest to be Improved for the Benefit of the School in Said Town And in Case the Said Samuel Osborn his Heirs or assigns Should Neglect or Refuse to pay Said Interest within Forty Days after it becomes Due : Then Said Treasurer or his Successors shall have Power to re-Enter upon the Premises and sell at Publick Vandue as much of Said Land as will pay Said Interest and Charges : he or they giving publick Notice thereof fourteen Days Preceeding Such Sale : and the overplus if any such there Be Shall be return'd to the owner within Twelve Days after the Sale ; and if it Shall So hapen that the Said S. Osborn his Heirs or assigns Shall at any time or times hereafter Pay the Principle Sum herein Specified Then he or they Shall be acquitted from paying Said Interest to the End of Said Term :

In Witness whereof we have hereunto Set our Hands and Seals This fourth Day of June in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Eight : it being the Second year of Independance

Signed Sealed and Delivered

in Presance of
Benjamin Willis
Nathan Rugg

Sam'l Patrick O
John Mellen O
Levi Brigham O

The north half of this Lot, No. 11 in Range 5, was leased to Ichabod Smith, cooper, for the same rent. The ministerial Lot No. 12 in Range 5 was also leased to Ichabod Smith for the interest on sixty-five pounds ; and the other ministerial Lot No. 16 in Range 1 was leased to Samuel Kendall, gentleman, for the interest on eighty-three pounds and eight shillings. The terms and conditions were the same in all the leases. The lease to Esquire Kendall was dated June 20th, 1778 ; the other three were dated June 4th. As the country returned to

specie payments there was evidently some question as to what rent these lessees should pay in specie, and at a proprietors' meeting held June 18th, 1773, it was

Voted to choose a Committee to consolodate by the Scale the principal sums of what the Ministerial and School Land was Leased out for and ascertain the anual interest on the same and make Return to the Treasurer and the Clark who is to enter the same on the proprietors' Book. the committee chosen for y^e above purpose is messrs Josiah Hartwell Joseph Hemingway & Stephen Brigham

The report of this committee is entered in the proprietors' records as follows :

The Report of the Committee chosen to Consolodate by the Scale the sums that y^e ministerial and school Land was Leas'd out for and assertane the anual interest, is as folows :

June 30. 1783. To Deacon John Locke Treasurer. We find by the scale of consolodation that the anual interest of the following Lots of Ministerial and School Lands which is Leas'd out is as folows, viz. To Mr. Samuel Osborn Half School Lot No 11 in 5 principal £42-10, interest is 12. 9.

To Mr. Ichabod Smith Half School Lot No 11 in 5. principal £42-10 interest is 12. 9.

To Mr. Ichabod Smith Ministerial Lot No 12 in 5 principal £65. interest is 19. 6.

To Ensign Samuel Kendall, Ministerial Lot 16 in 1 principal £83-8. interest is £1-5-1-2.

the above is according to the scale Entred.

Joseph Heminway	} Committee
Josiah Hartwell	
Stephen Brigham	

The interest was scaled down to one for four. "The Scale of Consolidation," as it is here called, may be found in Chapter XI. The interest or rent at this reduced rate was paid by these lessees and their successors to the proprietors' treasurer till 1815, when the proprietors closed up their affairs, transferring all their outstanding business over to the jurisdiction of the town. It is apparent that about all the business done in the name of the proprietors for many years was the collection of the rent of these lands, and paying it over to the town. In 1815, the town having assumed the jurisdiction, by a committee appointed for the purpose, leased the lands to the parties

holding the titles under the old leases. The leases now given were for the term of nine hundred and ninety-nine years at the nominal rent of three cents a year on each lot, the lessees advancing and paying the rent in full, except this nominal sum of three cents a year, and in some of the leases at least, this sum was payable only when called for. The persons taking the several leases at this time and the amounts paid were as follows :

L. 16, R. 1, Thomas How, of Rindge.....	paid \$115.00
L. 12, R. 5, Josiah Osborn, of F.....	“ 66.78
L. 11, R. 5, Richard Gleason, Jr., of F.....	“ 86.00

It is not practicable to give a complete account of what was done with the other school lot, Lot 3 in Range 1. In 1798 all that part of the lot that is “west of the county road,” containing forty acres by estimation, was leased to Isaac Whittemore for nine hundred years at three cents a year rent. The amount paid on taking the lease is not stated, though as no further reference is made to the land it is evident that it was practically sold and paid for at this time.

In 1816 a committee was appointed to lease that part of the lot situated *east* of the county road, which is further described as the land formerly leased to Nathaniel Warner, but there is no record of any action taken by the committee. In March, 1823, the selectmen were authorized to dispose of the land which is now described as the land formerly leased to Nathan Pratt and Nathaniel Warner. Under this vote the land was leased, February 26th, 1824, to Daniel Streeter at three cents a year, a condition of the lease being that he should manage the land well. Nothing appears in the records to show when the land was leased to Pratt and Warner, or why they did not continue to hold possession of it.

Whether a school was maintained in Monadnock No. 4 before the incorporation of the town of Fitzwilliam in 1773, we have no means of determining, the proprietors' records being silent respecting the matter ; but as the population at that date was two hundred and fourteen, it is nearly certain that something was done for the education of the children. And, as the

records of the town meeting or meetings held in 1773 are missing, it cannot be stated whether the town raised any money for schooling in that year or not, but at the meeting held March 17th, 1774, an appropriation of seven pounds was made "for the use of a scool for the present year," and a similar amount was raised in 1775 for the same purpose. In both cases, the sum appropriated was for the use of *a school*, which shows us that to this date but a single school was maintained. In 1776 no new appropriation was made for this purpose, for the reason that "the money raised last year for a school had not been expended."

In 1777 ten pounds were raised "for the use of a school," and in 1778 fifteen pounds, while the town voted respecting this latter appropriation that "the school money should be spent in Eith Squarn (each squadron) as they shall think proper." From the tenor of this vote it is plain that there was to be more than one school now, and each squadron was to have the privilege of spending its money in such manner as should be for its own best accommodation.

In 1779, the currency in which taxes were paid having greatly depreciated, one hundred and eighty pounds were raised for schools, and the town chose Caleb Winch, John Locke, Samuel Kendall, Levi Brigham, and Joseph Nurse a committee "to provide schools in eisteh Squarn, and also to provide houses for to ceept (keep) the schools in and also to see the money laid out in its proper season." As this committee was composed of five men, located in different parts of the town, the inference is that there were five squadrons or districts in 1779. As early as anything can be definitely ascertained about it, it is evident that while the School Committee was chosen by the town at the annual town meeting, one member of the committee was chosen from each district, and that each member of the committee had the direction and management of the school in his own district. The School Committee was chosen in this manner till 1823, when the town "Voted that each School District have liberty to choose their own School Agent and lay out their own School Money."

The currency having still further depreciated, four hundred

pounds were raised for the support of the schools in 1780, and in 1781 this sum was increased to fifteen hundred pounds. In this last-named year, at a meeting held later in the year, the town voted to raise twenty pounds in silver in lieu of the fifteen hundred pounds in paper currency voted at the earlier meeting.

The divisions of the town for school purposes were not called districts till early in the present century. In 1802 the word districts first appears upon the records, and these were first designated by numbers in 1803. From the best information obtainable it appears that there were five squadrons in 1779-80, seven in 1781-88, eight in 1789-91, and nine in 1792-96.

In 1803 the number had increased to thirteen, and this continued to be the number of the districts till Troy was incorporated in 1815. The new town took from Fitzwilliam two whole districts, viz., Nos. 10 and 13, and two half districts, viz., halves of Nos. 6 and 9. About the same time a new district was formed in Fitzwilliam from the adjoining parts of Nos. 11 and 12, and this was numbered 10.

The nine squadrons of 1792-96 answered to the districts existing at the time that Troy was formed about as follows :

Squadrons.	Districts.	Squadrons.	Districts.
East.....	Nos. 1 & 2	Southwest.....	No. 11
Northeast	" 6	Centre.....	" 4 & 8
North.....	" 9 & 10	North Centre....	" 5
Northwest.....	" 13	South.....	" 3 & 7
West.....	" 12		

Since 1815 the town has been formally redistricted, and various alterations have been made at other times, yet the boundaries have remained *substantially* as they were seventy years ago, and there has been no change at all in the numbering of the districts. For a time No. 4 was classed with No. 8, but for more than fifty years this district has had its separate school.

In 1885 the Legislature abolished the district system, but the new plan devised to take its place is understood to meet with much opposition, and it is deemed altogether too early to decide upon its relative value.

THE FIRST SCHOOL-HOUSES.

For a number of years after the settlement of the town the schools were kept in private houses, and in localities as nearly central as circumstances would admit. It was with the schools as it was with the religious services on the Sabbath, a room was obtained in some dwelling-house where the largest number could be accommodated. In 1779, as we have seen, the town took measures for the erection of the first school-houses, but as the warrant for a town meeting to be held January 15th, 1781, contained the following article, viz.,

to see if the town will grant money to build School houses and say how many, and where they shall be sott and how much money they will give for building them or act thereon as the town think proper

it would seem that the committee appointed for this purpose nearly two years before had failed to act, probably for the good reason that no appropriation had been made for this purpose. The houses were, however, built at a later period, but when, where, or how many, the old records do not inform us.

It is learned from other sources that the first one was built for the East Squadron, which comprised all the east part of the town. This was located on Lot 10 in Range 1, and was built in 1779. In 1795 this squadron was divided, the north part retaining the original name and the old school-house. This was removed to the spot now occupied by No. 2 school-house, and in its two locations was used for about sixty years. The south part was named the Southeast Squadron, and for its accommodation a new school-house was built between the dwelling-houses of Calvin Clark (on Lot 6 in Range 1) and Abijah Warner (on Lot 5 in Range 1). This was a framed house, rough boarded, and with a large stone chimney. The fireplace was so large that logs were rolled into it, and on cold mornings the boys were accustomed to take their books and sit upon the forestick to keep comfortable while they pursued their studies. Six long seats were placed upon each side of the aisle. This school-house was burned not far from the year 1808, and nothing was saved, as most of the people were absent from their homes. After this loss this school was maintained

for a number of years in dwelling-houses, and it was not till the year 1814 that another school-house was erected. This, which stood about fifteen rods north of the old house, was much better than its predecessor, but would not compare favorably with the neat and convenient house that the important school in District No. 1 now occupies.

The first school-house in District No. 5, or the North Centre Squadron, as it was called at the commencement of the present century, was built of logs and was located on the Common near where the soldiers' monument now stands.

EARLY SCHOOL-TEACHERS.

We have but little information concerning the school-teachers of Fitzwilliam before the year 1800. Referring to the districts by their numbers, as afterward designated, it is stated that Dr. Grosvenor taught in 1786 in No. 8 and later in No. 3. Mrs. Simeon Perry also taught in No. 3 at an early date. The first school-house in No. 11 was built in 1788. The first female teacher who taught in this school-house was Alice Graves, and the first male teacher was Israel Whitney. Jonas Gary taught in this district before the school-house was built. In the earlier years of the present century Arunah Allen and Ezekiel Rand taught in several districts in town. Mr. Allen was afterward a Baptist minister. Mr. Rand was a native of Rindge, and married a daughter of Abner Stone, of Fitzwilliam. Hannah Brigham, afterward Mrs. William F. Perry, and her sister Anna, afterward Mrs. Timothy Kendall, were both popular teachers. Anna taught in No. 8 in 1801 and 1803, in No. 13 in 1802 and 1803 and in No. 2 in 1803. Mary Chaplin, afterward Mrs. Artemas Beard, taught in No. 5 in the summer of 1803. Phinehas Reed was school agent in that year. Sally Kendall, of Templeton, taught in No. 5 in the summers of 1804 and 1805. Other popular teachers, mostly of a little later date, were Amos Jones, Benjamin Eddy, John Fletcher, John J. Allen, Phinehas Howe, Lucy Whitney, Lucy Stone, Betsey Wright, Betsey Bowker, Olive Hancock, and Sarah Knight. Some further information about many of these teachers may be found in the Genealogical Records in this book.

EARLY SCHOOL DISCIPLINE.

This was often somewhat sterner than generally prevails at the present day, though not a few of the school-teachers one hundred years ago governed largely by kindness and love rather than by the rod.

Benjamin Eddy had some roguish boys among his pupils, for one day John Miles appeared in "Old Hivers's" * ragged clothes, and Eli Prescott was dressed in garments that had been worn by some one while picking geese. Master Eddy ordered them out of the house, but, as the school was completely demoralized by the ludicrous appearance of the culprits, they seem to have remained, and "John walked with the teacher to dinner, with his fox-skin muff for a hat." One girl received a severe punishment for shaking her clenched fist in the face of another teacher, and he seems to have been one of the best schoolmasters of the time. She must have been exceptionally passionate and impudent. As a general thing good order was maintained in the early schools.

BRANCHES TAUGHT IN THE EARLY SCHOOLS.

The instruction was plainly confined to what we denominate the rudiments of a school education. Considerable attention was paid to reading, spelling, and penmanship. Spelling-matches are not a modern invention, for "Lucy Bigelow and Tamar Grant spelt for the scissors, and both missing, lost them." The word upon which the trial terminated is given, but cannot be deciphered. Not much was attempted in the way of geography, and still less in grammar. Arithmetic was a popular study one hundred years ago, especially with the older boys, but in this branch much less proficiency was generally made than is common now under our improved systems of teaching. No geography or maps adapted to common school instruction were to be found eighty years ago in this country or in Europe. No instruction was given in algebra, geometry, philosophy, physiology, drawing, or music, even to

* This was in District No. 11. George Hivers, Hivus, or Ilbrus, a colored man, died December 21st, 1807, aged 78 years.

the most advanced classes in the schools. Nevertheless, those schools were practically sufficient to enable the pupils to transact all the common business of life correctly and to maintain honorable and useful positions in society.

SUPERVISION OF THE EARLY SCHOOLS.

For many years after the incorporation of the town, there was no official board legally charged with the duty of examining school-teachers in regard to their qualifications, or of taking cognizance of the condition and progress of the schools. Year by year the town raised and appropriated such sums of money for the support of schools as was considered necessary, and chose a school committee to expend the money in a proper manner. This committee evidently consisted of one person from each squadron or district, and each committeeman seems to have taken the entire charge of the schools in his own district. Very early public sentiment required that the clergymen of the several towns should, as far as possible, visit each school at its closing examination, remark upon the behavior and progress of the scholars and offer prayer.

The town of Fitzwilliam seems to have taken measures for some general supervision of the schools before any State laws were passed making such supervision obligatory.

In 1795 the town voted that Rev. Benjamin Brigham, Lieutenant Caleb Winch, and Nahum Parker, Esq., be a committee to inspect the schools in town the year ensuing.

In 1797 Rev. Mr. Brigham and the selectmen were appointed for the same purpose.

In 1808 the town chose Rev. John Sabin, Thomas Stratton, and Charles Bowker a committee to inspect schools, while in 1809 and 1810 Mr. Sabin and the selectmen discharged this duty. In 1811 a committee of eleven was raised for this purpose, and it was requested that "Rev. John Sabin should attend as often as convenient."

In 1812 and 1813 the town "chose a committee of twelve to inspect the schools," but no reference is made in the vote to Rev. Mr. Sabin.

In 1814 Rev. Mr. Sabin and the several district committees

inspected the schools, and in 1815 there were associated with the pastor the selectmen, Elder Arunah Allen, and Luther Chapman, Esq.

In 1816 the town "chose Rev. John Sabin to visit the schools in this town with each Committee man," and the same vote was passed in 1817.

From 1818 to 1820 inclusive no action of the town upon this subject is recorded ; in 1821 and 1822, the committee to inspect schools consisted of Rev. John Sabin, Levi Chamberlain, and Jared Perkins, but in 1823 Alvah Godding took the place of Mr. Sabin. At this date the town voted that each district shall choose its own committee, and this vote was repeated in 1824. This officer doubtless answered to the Prudential Committee of recent days, and even since 1823 he has been chosen by the districts respectively and not by the town, as was the former custom.

In 1825 the town chose Rev. John Sabin, J. S. Adams, and John J. Allen to inspect the schools, but authorized Mr. Sabin to name six other persons in addition to serve with these, and he nominated Rufus Foster, Newell Bent, Silas Cummings, John Perkins, Dexter Whittemore, and Lysander Tower.

In 1826 a committee of ten was chosen to visit schools and recommend books, viz., Luther Chapman, Levi Chamberlain, John J. Allen, Dexter Whittemore, Lysander Tower, Danvers Whittemore, Luke B. Richardson, John Perkins, J. S. Adams, and Curtis Coolidge.

In 1827 Rev. John Sabin, Levi Chamberlain, John J. Allen, J. S. Adams, Newell Bent, and Silas Cummings constituted the committee.

From 1828 to 1832 inclusive there is no record of the appointment of any Superintending School Committee by the town, but such a committee may have been appointed by the selectmen.

That such a committee served during those years seems nearly certain from the fact that in 1833 the town voted to dispense with the services of the Superintending School Committee so far as relates to the inspection or examination of Schools.

From this date to 1841 the records are very meagre on this

point, though in some of the later years it is shown that a report was made and accepted.

In an historical lecture delivered in the town in 1836, Mr. Sabin took an advanced position relative to school matters ; and among the errors which he labored to correct were these :

1. The schools were too short because the appropriations were too small.

2. The standard of education having been raised, the progress of the schools had not kept pace with it.

3. Some of the children had been crowded forward too early and rapidly in their studies, and had been injured thereby.

"Parents and even teachers are in haste everywhere to have their children become men. How sad a mistake !" This Mr. Sabin quotes approvingly from *The Moral Reformer*.

4. Some of the popular amusements of the time and town were interfering greatly with the substantial education of the children and youth, and the statement of this evil was followed with the suggestion that if they had met just as often to study Colburn's arithmetic or Euclid, they would have received greater and more lasting benefit, with less expense and less exposure of life and health. A man of Mr. Sabin's age and experience, and with views like these, must have done much for the intellectual as well as moral education of the young.

Not long after this period the town increased its appropriations for school purposes and provided for a more efficient supervision of its schools. In 1840 Rev. John Sabin, Amos A. Parker, Daniel Spaulding, Dexter Whittemore, and Calvin J. Parker were chosen by the town as a School Committee, and they did the work assigned them so well that a year later the town passed a vote of thanks for their service, and seems to have continued them in office another year by general consent. A list of the committees for the succeeding years is here given. The date prefixed is the year of appointment. The report of each committee will, of course, be dated the following year. The committees of 1842 and 1843 were appointed by the selectmen, and that of 1844 was chosen by the town. Since 1844 the committees have been perhaps more usually

chosen by the town, though very frequently the appointment has been referred to the selectmen.

SUPERINTENDING SCHOOL COMMITTEES.

- 1842. Jonathan S. Adams, Daniel Spaulding, Silas Cummings.
- 1843. Daniel Spaulding, Silas Cummings, Calvin J. Parker.
- 1844. Calvin J. Parker, Dexter Whittemore, John J. Allen, Jr.

This was the first committee that qualified by taking the official oath.

- 1845. Calvin J. Parker, Dexter Whittemore, Samuel Kendall.
- 1846. Silas Cummings, Daniel Spaulding, Jonathan S. Adams.
- 1847. John S. Brown, Charles M. Willard.
- 1848. Charles M. Willard, John S. Brown, William D. Locke.
- 1849. John S. Brown, Charles M. Willard, Abraham Jenkins, Jr.
- 1850. Abraham Jenkins, Jr., John S. Brown.
- 1851. Silas Cummings, John J. Allen, Jr., Thomas W. Whittemore.
- 1852. Silas Cummings, John J. Allen, Jr., Daniel Spaulding.
- 1853. John J. Allen, Jr., Augustus W. Goodnow, Milton Chaplin, Silas Cummings.
- 1854. John Woods, Samuel Kendall.
- 1855. John Woods.
- 1856. John Woods.
- 1857. Silas Cummings.
- 1858. John J. Allen, Jr.
- 1859. Joel Whittemore.
- 1860. Samuel Kendall, William L. Gaylord, C. R. Crowell.
- 1861. James N. Chase, William L. Gaylord, Curtis R. Crowell.
- 1862. William L. Gaylord.
- 1863. John J. Allen, Jr.
- 1864. Amos J. Blake.
- 1865. William L. Gaylord, George W. Cutting, Eugene de Normandie.
- 1866. William L. Gaylord, George W. Cutting, Ira Bailey.

1867. William L. Gaylord, George W. Cutting, Ira Bailey.
Mr. Gaylord removed from town before the close of the year, and the report was made by Messrs. Cutting and Bailey.
- 1868 to 1872 inclusive, Dr. A. R. Gleason.
1873. A. R. Gleason, Amos J. Blake, H. W. Day.
1874. Amos J. Blake.
1875. Amos J. Blake, John Colby.
1876. Amos J. Blake, John Colby, A. R. Gleason.
1877. John Colby, A. R. Gleason.
1878. John Colby, A. R. Gleason, Amos J. Blake.
1879. Silas Cummings, Samuel Kendall, Calvin B. Perry.
1880. A. R. Gleason, Amos J. Blake, Samuel Kendall.
1881. Amos J. Blake, Samuel Kendall, A. R. Gleason.
1882. Samuel Kendall, A. R. Gleason, Amos J. Blake.
1883. A. R. Gleason, Amos J. Blake, Elliot K. Wheelock.
1884. Amos J. Blake, Elliot K. Wheelock, John M. Parker.
1885. Elliot K. Wheelock, John M. Parker, Harriet W. Stearns.
1886. A. R. Gleason, Jonas Damon, Harriet W. Stearns.
1887. Jonas Damon, Harriet W. Stearns, Samuel Kendall.

In 1880 the town adopted the plan of electing a single member of the School Committee each year, to hold office for three years, a system which has many advantages, as it keeps upon the committee constantly two members who have become well acquainted with the qualifications of the teachers and the condition of the schools.

The town commenced the printing of the School Reports in 1844. The report made in 1845 covers thirty-one pages, and is very elaborate, as it sets forth the examination of the teachers and of the schools, the condition of the latter in detail, with the matter of the classification of the pupils, and considers at length the subjects of reading, writing, qualifications of teachers, vocal music, physical education, and visits of parents and others.

Since 1850 the reports of the selectmen and other town officers have generally been printed with the School Reports. No reports were printed in 1854, 1855, and 1856.

In the following tables, Table I. gives the number of scholars attending school, and the aggregate length of the schools; Table II. gives a more extended report for four representative years :

TABLE I.

	Summer Schools.			Winter Schools.			Total Number of Different Scholars in the Year.	Number of Weeks' Schooling in the Year.
	Total Number of Scholars.	Boys.	Girls.	Total Number of Scholars.	Boys.	Girls.		
1843-4....	320			431				218
1844-5....	361	161	200	452	239	213	488	222
1845-6....	332	139	193	460	253	216		220
1846-7....	345	148	397	428	219	209		231
1847-8....	385	157	228	410	220	190		244
1848-9....	370	163	207	447	238	209		212
1849-50...	332	140	192	443	229	214		219
1850-1....	335	143	192	400	206	194		217
1851-2....	261	113	148	386	203	183	419	204
1852-3....	284	115	169	396	210	186	422	232
1855-6....	283						432	205
1856-7....	268	109	159	366	200	166	441	220
1857-8....	275			356			394	200
1858-9....	256			343			373	211
1859-60...	267			354			405	198
1860-1....	256			314			325	193
1861-2....	246			333			366	208
1862-3....	253			327			371	202
1863-4....	250			377			406	203
1864-5....	255			353			398	206
1865-6....							377	235
1866-7....							380	220
1867-8....	290			357			383	225
1868-9....	256			325			336	205
1869-70...	247			304			317	227
1870-1....	246			290			327	225
1871-2....	216			266			297	196
1872-3....	222			261			282	201
1873-4...	208			298			331	204
1874-5....	235			281			319	242
1875-6....	225			269				241

TABLE I.—(Continued.)

	Summer Schools.			Winter Schools.			Total Number of Different Scholars in the Year.	Number of Weeks' Schooling in the Year.
	Total Number of Scholars.	Boys.	Girls.	Total Number of Scholars.	Boys.	Girls.		
1876-7....	228			277			277	244
1877-8....	218			259				266
1878-9....	219			235				275
1879-80...	215			251				265
1880-1....	199			228				299
1881-2....	209			221			269	260
1882-3....	200	89	111	236	129	107		251
1883-4....	214	98	116	269	142	127		262
1884-5....	236	117	119	273	143	130		264
1885-6....	234	114	120	262	135	127		250
1886-7....	238	117	121	247	129	118		240

TABLE II.

	1844-5.	1852-3.	1864-5.	1884-5.
Number of different scholars attending school in the year.....	488	422	398	269
Of which were boys.....	260	222	212	141
“ “ girls.....	228	200	186	128
Whole number attending in summer	361	284	255	236
Average attendance in summer.....	312	235	230	216
Whole number attending in winter	452	396	353	273
Average attendance in winter	366	341	297	250
Amount required by law to be raised for support of schools.....	\$504.00	\$577.20		
Amount actually raised....	\$800.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000	\$2,000

TABLE II.—(Continued.)

	1844-5.	1852-3.	1864-5.	1884-5.
Amount of Literary Fund.	\$50.19	\$66.72	\$99.96	\$130.05
Amount for each scholar...	1.76	2.52	2.76	8.17
Terms taught by male teachers	5	4	1	6
Terms taught by female teachers.....	20	20	23	21
Average wages per month, including board, male teachers.....	\$25.20	\$28.50	\$50.00	\$37.67
Average wages per month, including board, female teachers.....	11.10	14.00	19.68	29.14
Number of visits by citizens before final examinations at summer schools.....	275	402		257
At winter schools.....	177	476		262

It will be seen that while the number of scholars belonging in the town and attending school has considerably diminished, the amount of money expended upon the schools has greatly increased. The result of the larger appropriations has been to command the services of more efficient and better educated teachers, and to add considerably to the length of the schools. It will be particularly noticed that much the larger advance has been made in the wages paid to female teachers.

In a few cases a high school has been maintained in the autumn, with varying success, and nearly every year some of the youth of the town have attended academies and high schools in other places. During these years a large amount of private instruction has been given by those well qualified to teach ; but ever since the settlement of the town, the chief reliance has been placed upon the common schools in the intellectual training of the children and youth.

The printed annual School Reports for the last forty years contain a great amount of valuable information respecting the

school education of children, and youth in general, and the condition of each district school in particular. The suggestions found in them relative to the increased efficiency of the schools are mostly of much practical importance, and show that, as the years have been coming and going, the intellectual training of the young of Fitzwilliam has not been overlooked.

LITERARY FUND.

The Literary Fund, to which allusion has been made, is derived from an annual tax of one half of one per cent on the amount of the actual capital stock of banking corporations in this State, also from a tax of one per cent on deposits in savings-banks by non-resident depositors, or depositors whose residence is unknown, and also from the proceeds of the sale of the State lands in the northern portion of the State.

The Governor, Secretary of State, and State Treasurer for the time being, constitute a Board of Commissioners to manage said Literary Fund.

The law provides that the State Treasurer shall assign and distribute, annually in June, the Literary Fund among the several towns and places, according to the number of scholars of such towns and places, not less than five years of age, who shall, by the last Report of the School Committee of the several towns and places returned to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, appear to have attended the district common schools in such towns and places for a term not less than two weeks within that year.

The money so received by any town or place shall be applied to the maintenance of common schools or to other purposes of education, in addition to the sums required to be raised by law, and in such manner as the town shall direct ; but no district in which no school shall be kept during the year shall receive any part of said money. See Chapter XCIV., General Laws of New Hampshire.

All money arising from the taxation of dogs remaining in the treasury of any town or city of this State on the first day of April, which has not been ordered to be paid for damages done by dogs to domestic animals, shall be applied to the sup-

port of schools. Section 18, Chapter CXV., General Laws of New Hampshire.

THE FITZWILLIAM COMMON-SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

From a printed circular issued by A. S. Kendall, President, and Stephen Batcheller, Secretary, and addressed to the inhabitants of this town we learn that for some years the county of Cheshire among the counties, and the town of Fitzwilliam among its towns, were regarded "as the banner county and town in New Hampshire in matters pertaining to common schools." It should be known, however, that this high position had not been gained solely, perhaps not chiefly, by large appropriations for educational purposes, or by the employment of the most competent teachers, or, again, because the schools of this town had been favored with a wiser and more energetic superintendence than most of its neighbors enjoyed. These had all done much to raise the standard of education here, but, after all, the secret of the success was plainly to be found in the prevailing sentiment of the people generally, their interest in their schools and determination to make them as efficient as possible.

As early as October 25th, 1842, measures were adopted for the organization of what was known, for many years, as "The Fitzwilliam Common School Association," and on November 8th of that year the organization of this society was perfected, Rev. J. H. Sayward, Dr. S. Cummings, and Daniel Spaulding, Esq., reporting the form of a constitution for that purpose.

The object aimed at is stated to have been "to increase the interest in and to improve and perfect our common schools." The original constitution as slightly amended from time to time was signed by one hundred and eighty-eight persons of both sexes, with the name of Rev. John Sabin at the head of the list, and these names embrace those of the most active and energetic of the people of Fitzwilliam at that period. The plan proposed and successfully as well as generally carried out during the years that followed, was to hold, each year, a series of evening meetings in the several school districts, at which

papers should be read, lectures given, and discussions engaged in relative to all the matters appertaining to the common schools. The meeting was usually held while the school in the district was in session.

The officers of the organization were a president, a vice-president, a secretary and treasurer, three councillors, and in each district two coadjutors—one of each sex. At the first election, the persons whose names follow were chosen : Daniel Spaulding, President ; Joseph A. Penniman, Vice-President ; John P. Sabin, Secretary and Treasurer ; Rev. Messrs. John Sabin, James H. Sayward, and Joseph Storer, Councillors.

District.

Coadjutors.

1. John Damon, Mrs. Lurena Gregory.
2. Joshua T. Collins, Mrs. David Fullam.
3. Nelson Howe, Miss Zerviah Waite.
4. George N. Olmsted, Mrs. George W. Simonds.
5. Silas Cummings, Miss M. E. Spaulding.
Calvin J. Parker, Miss Sarah B. Richardson.
6. James Corey, Mrs. Jonathan Whittemore.
7. Levi Harris, Mrs. William D. Locke.
8. Lewis Taft, Miss Olive R. Felch.
9. Henry H. Wheeler, Miss Tryphena Collins.
10. Thomas Sweetser, Miss Maria Blodgett.
11. Benjamin Heywood, Mrs. Daniel White.
12. Rufus Foster, Miss Emeline Worcester.

The duties of these officers will be easily understood with the exception of the last-named, the coadjutors. These persons were appointed to arrange in each district for a full attendance at the meetings as they should occur, to see that the school-houses should be properly warmed and lighted for the same, and to do everything possible to make each meeting successful, while, later, it was made a part of their duty to inquire into the condition of poor families within the bounds of their respective districts, and to report the facts to the Association, that assistance might be rendered, if deemed necessary and expedient. The list of coadjutors often, perhaps always, in-

cluded the names of the Prudential Committees of the several districts.

This Fitzwilliam Common School Association soon became an important member of the Cheshire County Common School Association, which was in active service for many years. The Fitzwilliam Association was the first town association formed in the State, and it is believed that no other town association in the State or country had so long an active and continuous existence. The lectures and discussions took a wide range at the meetings, but all were made to bear either directly or indirectly upon common-school education, with a view to correct the prevailing evils in the system and to raise the standard as high as possible. Such men as Revs. Messrs. Sabin, Brown, and Herrick, Amos A. Parker, Esq., J. S. Adams, John J. Allen, Jr., Dexter Whittemore, Samuel Kendall, Dr. Silas Cummings, Daniel Spaulding, and others equally interested took an active part in all these proceedings.

At the opening of the Association year, September 28th, 1846, the following appointment of lecturers was made, and the lectures thus provided for seem to have been given regularly and promptly :

- | | | |
|--------------|-----|--|
| District No. | 1. | Rev. D. Stowell, Parental Duties. |
| " " | 2. | Daniel Spaulding, Esq., Power of Attention. |
| " " | 3. | Henry Cummings, Reading and Spelling. |
| " " | 4. | Samuel Kendall, Studies in School. |
| " " | 5. | John J. Allen, Jr., Music in Schools. |
| " " | 7. | Charles Cummings, Compositions. |
| " " | 8. | Amos A. Parker, Esq., Punctuality and Constant Attendance. |
| " " | 9. | Rev. Horace Herrick, Moral Culture. |
| " " | 10. | Dr. Silas Cummings, Physical Culture. |
| " " | 11. | Rev. John S. Brown, Intellectual Culture. |
| " " | 12. | Jonathan S. Adams, School Discipline. |

The directors or councillors in making the appointments for each year, as a matter of course introduced new lecturers and subjects for discussion, and October 25th, 1847, provision was made to have papers upon common-school education pre-

sented at each district meeting by two ladies. The first appointment of these was as follows :

- No. 1. Mrs. S. Kendall, Miss Ellen M. Allen.
- “ 2. Miss M. B. Alexander, Miss Nancy S. Carter.
- “ 3. Miss Lucy Newton, Miss Miranda S. Parker.
- “ 4. Miss Jane E. Reed, Miss Nancy A. Harris.
- “ 5. Mrs. C. C. Carter, Miss Esther E. Buckminster.
- “ 7. Miss M. B. Wilder, Miss Eliza J. Newton.
- “ 8. Miss J. A. Spaulding, Miss Ellen Hill.
- “ 9. Miss O. R. Felch, Mrs. C. M. Willard.
- “ 10. Miss Eliza Whittemore, Mrs. J. S. Brown.
- “ 11. Mrs. Joel Whittemore, Miss S. A. Thompson.
- “ 12. Mrs. F. Kendall, Mrs. D. Stowell.

The records from this time forward show that the scholars of the several districts were active in preparing for the district meetings, in the way of furnishing agreeable music for the same and school papers to be read by teacher or scholars. The essays by the ladies introduced a new and attractive feature, and the meetings were sustained through the season with great interest. And this plan of operations, an outline of which has here been given, was adopted substantially and carried out from year to year. New names appear from time to time upon the lists of writers and speakers. In nearly or quite every district, a school paper, with a significant name, as, *The Youth's Friend*, *The Evening Star*, was carefully prepared by the scholars and read by the teacher or by one or more of the pupils, and much was done in this way to maintain the interest of the meetings. The paper presented in District No. 5, January 6th, 1853, was read by three of the pupils, viz., Hannah A. Adams, Abbie H. Kimball, and Cynthia Whittemore. It was entitled *The School Gleaner*, and consisted of thirty-one articles from the higher and twelve from the primary department, but the whole was read in forty-eight minutes.

Commencing with the autumn of 1853 the work of the Fitzwilliam Common School Association was continued, but under the name of “The Association for Educational Purposes in Fitzwilliam.” A new constitution was adopted, but its fea-

tures were not unlike those of its predecessor, though in its range it may have been possibly a little wider. More and more the pupils in the several schools contributed to the interest and value of the district meetings by their papers and music, while the older members of the Association, both male and female, furnished their lectures and essays upon a great variety of practical matters appertaining to culture and training in the home and the school.

The officers for the year 1858-59 were John Forristall, President ; Charles Reed, Vice-president ; Joel Whittemore, Secretary ; Charles H. Woods, Editor ; Dr. S. Cummings, Philip D. Angier and Chancy Davis, Jr., Directors. The meetings (often weekly), seem to have been maintained with a good degree of interest through the entire period of the Civil War, fifty, seventy, seventy-five, one hundred and six, and two hundred and ten being present on different occasions. In this connection it will be remembered that only a few of the school-houses in town have proper accommodations for over fifty scholars. November 6th, 1865, a printed schedule for the season was distributed, signed by Joel Whittemore, President, and Amos J. Blake, Secretary, giving the time and place of the meetings, the names of the speakers, etc.

During all the earlier years of this Association's active work, the lectures were given by the appointees in person, and all the appointments were made in town, but after the change of its name and constitution in 1853, substitute lecturers were accepted, and occasionally a lecturer was obtained from out of town.

The last meeting of the Association of which record was made, was held February 8th, 1867, at the close of which it was voted to discontinue the meetings of the Association for the winter. No reason is given why they were not resumed.

So many and such large gatherings in all parts of the town, sustained through the period of twenty-five years by the best educated and most prominent people of the place, must have done for the cause of common school education what could not have been effected by any other means whatever.

THE FITZWILLIAM LYCEUM.

Forty or fifty years ago this Lyceum had a prominent place in the affairs of this town, which it never obtained in most of the New England communities.

In his historical lecture, given in 1836, Rev. John Sabin speaks of its operations and influence approvingly :

It was formed, he says, a number of years ago, and has proceeded according to its design, not, however, exciting all the interest that was hoped. A little more than a year ago (it was) reformed and organized as at present. Its object, improvement, mental and moral ; and it may have done more good than for which it has credit in disciplining mind and turning attention to subjects of importance in particular. There are people enough with us and of a suitable age to make the Lyceum prosperous and useful. It is to be regretted that not more of our youth come in, this season, take an active part and with interest, by written pieces, if they do not like to talk.

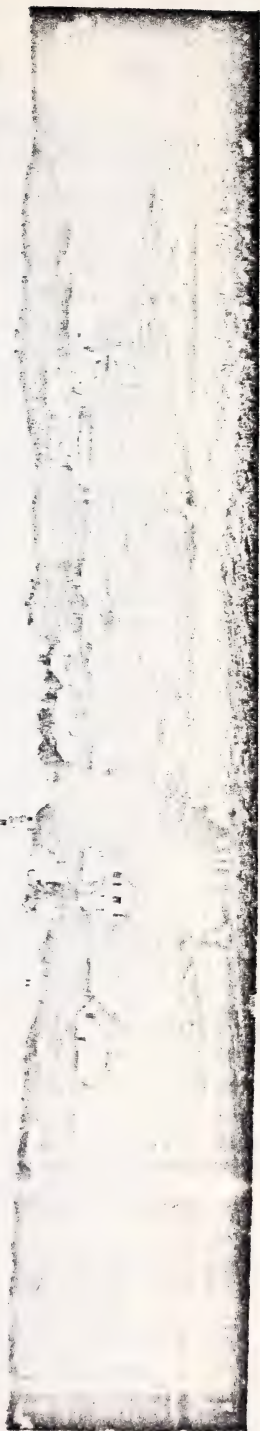
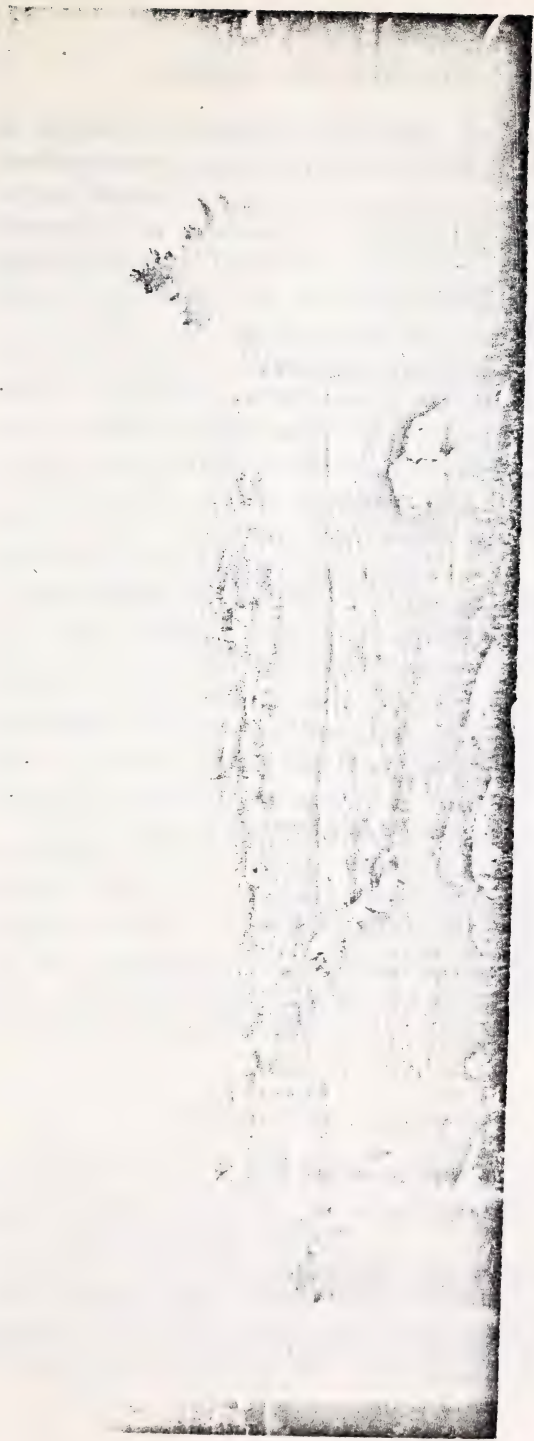
Every school-teacher should be found here, and all that have any idea of cultivating their own minds, and the minds of others.

This Association held weekly meetings in the village school-house during the colder season of the year. The audiences attending were usually large, often filling the house to its fullest capacity, and it was noticeable that the interest in the meetings continued unabated year after year. Aside from the great amount of valuable information gained through this institution, it obviously quickened the intellects of all concerned, and did much to train the debaters *to think upon their feet*. The Lyceum continued in active existence for some years after the formation of the Common School Association, when from the increasing popularity of the latter society, the meetings of the former were discontinued.

Some years before the formation of the Lyceum, an association called "The Minervan Society" was organized here, with the object of promoting a literary taste and general culture among its members, but the amount of success achieved by it cannot be stated, nor is it known when or for what reason it was suspended.

THE FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' CLUB.

This organization was formed late in the year 1869, and has had a more or less active existence to the present time. By



its original constitution the subjects for investigation at its meetings were required to be such as had a bearing on agriculture, horticulture, or mechanics, but this rule was afterward changed so as to allow the consideration of any subject of general interest. Under the wider range of subjects, the condition of the schools was discussed; intellectual, physical, and moral culture, and cognate topics were urged upon the attention of the people; electricity, the telegraph, and kindred subjects of a scientific nature were considered, while protection and free trade, village improvements and other matters of a practical nature were not neglected. Occasionally the services of a lecturer from out of town have been obtained, but generally the club has relied upon its own members to render its gatherings interesting and instructive.

Besides these associations, to which particular reference has been made, others of a somewhat similar character have from time to time been formed, sometimes to fill a vacancy, sometimes to furnish entertainment of a greater variety or of a more social character, and sometimes, perhaps, by way of opposition. Some of these may have continued for two or three seasons, but generally the interest in them was brief.

It will be noticed that, with the exception of a few brief interruptions, the town has had some kind of a literary society for over sixty years. It may well be doubted whether there is another town in New England of the size of Fitzwilliam that has supported a society of this character for so many years, with so little interruption, and with such continued interest during the entire period.

MUSICAL TALENT AND CULTURE.

An account of the educational resources and progress of Fitzwilliam can hardly be faithful and satisfactory without a brief reference to these matters.

It is not claiming too much for this place to say that few of the country towns of New England have been more distinguished during the last fifty years for the cultivation of music, both vocal and instrumental. No one will pretend that the

singing in the old meeting-house on the hill near the cemetery was anything to boast of, when the chorister was not always selected because of his superior musical taste and acquirements. If tradition is not greatly in fault, some of the scenes enacted there, professedly to praise Jehovah in sacred song, partook more of the ludicrous than of the devotional. Choirs would not join in sustaining the music of the sanctuary under an incompetent or even an unpopular leader a hundred years ago any more readily than they will to-day, as some of the ancient choristers learned to their sorrow,* while but little can be said in favor of the general style and execution of church music in those days except that it was hearty. It was no worse here than elsewhere.

But within the last fifty years a great change for the better has taken place, and this has been especially marked in Fitzwilliam. The people of this town might be divided and subdivided ecclesiastically and politically, but when they came to the matter of music all their differences vanished, and they were ready to act as a unit. In all the later years musical concerts have been a favorite recreation and entertainment. Especially was this the case some fifteen years ago, when a series of annual musical conventions in this place greatly interested all the lovers of music, and, it may be added, the people generally. In some of these conventions much valuable assistance was rendered by musicians from abroad, but in general the chief reliance for success was placed upon home talent. During the sessions of the conventions many popular concerts were given before large and interested audiences, and not a little was accomplished in the way of forming and correcting the musical taste of the community.

A good organ or pianoforte was on all these occasions a positive necessity, and it seemed to all most concerned vastly better to own such an instrument than to continue to borrow. This conviction led to the choice of a committee consisting of Messrs. P. S. Batcheller, John Whittemore, and A. R. Gleason,

* For a long time choristers were chosen by the town, and party spirit was not unknown in the early days. Some appointments were made in this line which the choir would not accept, when the leader sometimes attempted "the service of song" with no following.

to consider the whole subject and act upon it as circumstances might seem to dictate.

Their report, presented June 8th, 1870, from which extracts will here be given, will furnish all the information needed respecting the success of this enterprise.

To the Fitzwilliam Musical Association.

Your Committee, chosen to select and purchase a Piano Forte for the Town Hall in Fitzwilliam, have, according to their best judgment, attended to the duty assigned them, and would respectfully ask leave at this time to submit the following Report :

You will pardon the Committee if they advert to some circumstances connected with the purchase of the Piano not legitimately belonging to a report of this kind. It may not be generally known that, a few years since, the ladies of our village feeling the need of a Piano for the Town Hall held a series of entertainments consisting of Charades, Tableaux, etc. By this and other means they collected some \$45. This money was placed at interest, and amounts now to \$55, and may properly be considered the first money raised for the Piano, the nucleus around which, after these years of patient waiting, have been gathered funds sufficient to nearly complete what they so nobly commenced.

Since this first effort, nothing in aid of the enterprise was done until Jan. 1870, when at the suggestion of our citizens interested in Music an "Old Folks' Concert" was given, the avails of which were given to the purchase of a Piano. The Concert was, in every respect, a decided success. The music was well rendered and the audience the largest ever convened on any similar occasion in town.

Following the Concert, two Dramatic entertainments were given at our own Hall and one at East Jaffrey. The expense attending the getting up of these last entertainments was so heavy that the net proceeds were not so remunerative as could have been desired, still by them an addition of over \$50 was made to the Piano fund.

That the instrument might be owned by some responsible body, it was deemed best to organize a permanent Musical Association, under the laws of New Hampshire provided for such cases.

In the selection of a suitable instrument the Committee were early impressed with the superiority of "the School Piano" manufactured by Messrs. Steinway & Son, of New York City, and were unanimous in favor of accepting the offer which came from those celebrated manufacturers.

The Committee agreed to pay for the Instrument delivered at the Fitzwilliam depot \$365.00 including Stool and Cover. This amount was reduced \$10.00 on account of a slight defect in the finish of the instrument.

At the close of their report, which is here condensed, the committee say, we "cannot allow this opportunity to pass without congratulating the Association upon being the owners of this beautiful piano, and also the town for the privilege they will have from time to time of hearing it."

"The Fitzwilliam Musical Association," to which allusion

is made in the report which is given in part above, was duly organized April 7th, 1870, agreeable to the provisions of the General Statutes of New Hampshire in such cases made and provided. Its object is stated to be "to legally establish the ownership of the Piano Forte to be placed in the Town Hall of Fitzwilliam." In Article 3 provision is made for the usual officers of such an association, while Article 4 declares that "all persons who assisted as singers or players at the 'Old Folks' Concert,' given at the Town Hall in Fitzwilliam in Jan. 1870, and also the actors and orchestra who assisted in the Dramatic Entertainments may become members of this Association by signing these Articles."

Provision is also made for calling meetings of the Association.

It is understood that the Musical Association keeps the instrument insured. In real value the piano proves to be all that was anticipated respecting it when it was purchased over fifteen years ago. As this hall is the place for holding more or fewer literary or social entertainments annually, and as music must, most deservedly, enter largely into the proceedings on such occasions, the inhabitants of Fitzwilliam are certainly to be congratulated upon the possession of so pleasant and convenient a place for their gatherings, and the means within their reach of cultivating and enjoying together one of the most elevating and ennobling of the arts of civilized life. May fifty years to come witness an equally great improvement in musical taste and attainments!

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.

In his historical lecture, delivered in 1836, Rev. Mr. Sabin refers to the temperance society "as a very safe thing," that "does harm to none." It was called forth by the exigencies of the times, and "if it had not begun in one way, it surely would in another." The earliest active and prominent advocate of temperance principles was Dr. Preston Pond, who was a practising physician in town for several years about 1825-28. The doctor was ardent, and said a good deal, and from this circumstance became very obnoxious to not a few of our people and I should

think from this cause lost no small part of his practice. At the first what there was to it, was some half a dozen pledged to each other in a still way to total abstinence from ardent spirits, and they were not to help others to it, more than drink themselves.

But the agitation of the subject did not cease, even though Dr. Pond was compelled to leave town. The first formal organization was effected in the winter of 1829-30. The society was styled "The Fitzwilliam Friendly Association for the Promotion of Temperance," and the first board of officers were : Captain Dexter Whittemore, President ; Aaron Townsend, Vice-President ; Deacon Calvin Coolidge, Deacon R. B. Phillips, Dr. Warren Partridge, Benjamin Davison, Benjamin Wilson, Directors, and Silas Cummings, M.D., Secretary. A paper dated January 1st, 1830, setting forth the necessity, the objects, and the aim of the Association, and signed by the officers and the members (thirty-eight in number) was printed for general circulation. Five years later the society numbered three hundred and thirty-four members, though none joined it under twelve years of age, and none under twenty-one years, except with the consent of parents or guardians.

In 1842 a new organization, originating in what was known as the Washington movement, and named for "the Father of his country," took the place of the earlier society, and appears to have embraced within a few years a very large part of the population. The pledge adopted was as follows :

We the Subscribers pledge ourselves each to the others that we will not use any intoxicating drinks as a beverage, that we will not furnish them for others, that we will, in all suitable ways, discountenance their use and use our endeavors to redeem the intemperate.

The constitution of this society, based upon this pledge, was drawn up by Amos A. Parker, Esq., and it was signed in the space of three and one half years by six hundred and sixty-three of the inhabitants of Fitzwilliam, viz., by three hundred and fifty-three males and three hundred and ten females. In process of time against three of these names the word "broken" was written.

At the meeting for organization, March 2d, 1842, officers

were elected as follows : Amos A. Parker, Esq., President ; Dexter Whittemore, David Pierson, and John Reed, Vice-Presidents ; John P. Sabin, Secretary, and Benjamin J. Hawkes, Treasurer.

The first meetings were held in the village hall or in some one of the churches, but soon the gatherings often took place in the school-houses in all parts of the town.

The meetings were well attended, and nearly all the more prominent men and women of the town gave the society their cordial support. At these meetings all the phases of the temperance reformation were brought before the people by many earnest speakers, while measures for the suppression of the illegal traffic in intoxicating drinks received a large share of attention. From time to time Sunday-evening meetings were held at which the moral and religious aspects of the cause were particularly considered. At the meeting, January 7th, 1846, a resolution in these words called forth an earnest discussion :

Resolved, That the sickness which frequently occurs in the case of Temperance men on going out of town, requiring the aid of strong drink, is peculiar in its character, and in the judgment of charity may be omitted.

This singularly worded, but very suggestive resolve was earnestly discussed by at least eleven speakers, and laid over for further consideration. At the next meeting it was adopted.

This society appears to have been in active operation about twelve years, when, as was true in most of our New England towns, it gave place to other organizations of more or less efficiency.

That the Washington Temperance Society in Fitzwilliam accomplished a great amount of good between the years 1842 and 1854 *there can be no question.*

For several years (date about 1850-55) there was an active and efficient Lodge of Sons of Temperance, and at a more recent date (about 1867) a Lodge of Good Templars.

LIBRARIES.

Early in the history of Fitzwilliam the subject of providing a library seems to have been agitated, but nothing effectual

was done till 1797, when, for himself and others, Nahum Parker, Esq., presented the following petition to the General Court of New Hampshire :

Petition for Incorporation of Library.

To the General Court of the State of New Hampshire now conven'd at Portsmouth humbly Sheweth Nahum Parker, that he with a number of others Inhabitants of Fitzwilliam purchased a Collection of Books for a Social Library, but find it necessary to be incorporated in order to realize the advantages Contemplated. Therefore pray that they may be incorporated with such privileges as are usually Granted in such Cases, and as in duty bound will pray

Nahum Parker, for the purchasers

Nov. 27th. 1797.

This petition appears to have been granted November 29th, 1797.

It is understood that this Association had a good degree of prosperity for twenty or thirty years, though, as it was disbanded and the books sold at auction over forty years ago, but very few particulars concerning it can now be given. During the later years of its existence Dexter Whittemore was librarian, and the library was kept at his store. The books were well selected and of a high character, but generally were more solid and valuable than popular and attractive. Works of fiction were conspicuous by their absence. From the best attainable information the library contained over two hundred and fifty volumes, though many of them were old and well worn.

But the people were not long satisfied without a library, and measures were taken early in 1851 to form a new association for this purpose. The subscription paper which was circulated to obtain funds for this object is dated March 31st, 1851, and the money subscribed was to be paid by the 22d day of May following, and to be used "for the establishment of a town library." The first subscriptions upon the list were made by Nelson Howe and Dr. Silas Cummings for twenty-five dollars each, and these were followed by many others ranging from ten dollars to two dollars and fifty cents each, the whole amount raised before the meeting for organization having been two hundred and fifty-five dollars from forty-nine subscribers.

"The Fitzwilliam Library Association" was regularly organized May 31st, 1851.

The by-laws adopted provide that "the members of the Association shall consist of the representatives of shares in the property thereof, each share being valued at two and a half dollars actually paid in."

The officers were to be a Board of Supervisors, consisting of seven, a librarian, secretary, and treasurer. The supervisors were to recommend the books that should be purchased, but the Association must pass upon the list before the purchase could be made. The supervisors first chosen were Dr. Silas Cummings, Rev. Abraham Jenkins, Rev. J. S. Brown, J. J. Allen, Jr., Esq., William D. Locke, Rev. David Stowell, and Thomas W. Whittemore. Daniel Spaulding, Esq., was chosen Librarian and Secretary, and Dr. S. Cummings, Treasurer. In October, 1852, the librarian reported the number of books in the library to be four hundred and eighty-eight, and that there had been drawn out and returned during the year fourteen hundred and fifty-seven volumes. A year later there were four hundred and ninety volumes belonging to the library.

For a number of years the size of the library remained about the same, though the number of the books drawn out rather diminished. In 1859 the librarian was authorized to furnish books to non-shareholders at the rate of fifty cents a year, which sum was changed in 1863 to twenty-five cents, the intention being to furnish the privileges of the library to the inhabitants of the town generally at a merely nominal cost. In 1863 Joel Whittemore was chosen Librarian, Secretary, and Treasurer. In 1869 Mr. Whittemore resigned these offices and Dr. Silas Cummings was chosen to fill them. During this year the subject of disposing of the library was considered, but no definite action was taken. At a little later date, by permission of the selectmen, the library was removed to a room under the Town Hall.

At a meeting held January 21st, 1871, Daniel Spaulding, Librarian, reported that there were four hundred and seventy-five books in the library. At the same meeting Norman U.

Cahill introduced the following resolution, which after a full discussion was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, that we the shareholders of the Fitzwilliam Library Association do hereby donate and turn over to the Town of Fitzwilliam all our books and cases contained in our Library at this date ; Provided that each family in town may have a right in said Library by paying to the Librarian appointed by the town a sum not less than one dollar, and thereby constitute themselves and their families life members thereof, reserving, however, to ourselves and to our families a life membership with the right to take out books from said Library without payment of any additional sum therefor, subject to rules hereafter prescribed.

And that the Society known as the Fitzwilliam Library Association is hereby dissolved.

This proposal was accepted by the town at the annual meeting, held March 14th, 1871, when the following action was taken :

Resolved, that the Town of Fitzwilliam does hereby receive, accept and approve of the generous donation of the Fitzwilliam Library Association of the books and cases contained in their late Library on the terms expressed in their resolutions adopted Jan. 21, 1871, and that the name of said Library shall be "the Fitzwilliam Town Library," and there shall be chosen annually, at the annual town meeting, a Librarian who shall have the charge of said Library and act as Treasurer and also act as Supervisor of said Town Library, and two Supervisors who shall have the general supervision of said Library and of the Library room and shall annually make a report to the town of the condition and standing of said Library.

And that the Librarian and Supervisors are hereby authorized and empowered to make such rules and regulations for the government and management of said Library, from time to time as they may deem expedient, which said rules and regulations shall be recorded by the Clerk on the records of the Town, and that the centre room on the north side of the lower floor of the town house shall be assigned for the use of said Library and for such other literary and scientific meetings and exercises as the Board of Supervisors shall direct.

This arrangement developed a wider interest in the library ; several entertainments were given, the proceeds of which were used in purchasing new books, and the number of readers, which had materially fallen off, began at once to increase.

At the annual town meeting, March 13th, 1883, the town passed the following vote in relation to the library :

Voted that the supervisors take measures to make the town Library a free Library to all the citizens of the town under proper restrictions for the safe keeping of books.

In accordance with this vote, the supervisors called a meeting of the life members of the library, which was held at the library room, March 31st, 1883, when Dr. A. R. Gleason was appointed chairman of the meeting and Amos J. Blake, Esq., clerk. The records of the last meeting of the Fitzwilliam Library Association, held January 21st, 1871, were read, as was also the portion of the General Laws of New Hampshire applicable to the matters before the meeting. So also were the vote of the town accepting the bequest of the Library Association and the rules of the Fitzwilliam Town Library adopted by the supervisors, April 24th, 1873. Amos J. Blake, Esq., then moved the following resolution, which, after a full discussion, was unanimously adopted :

Be it resolved, that agreeably to a vote passed at the Annual Town Meeting March 13, 1883 and the provisions of Chapter 50 of the General Laws of New Hampshire the Fitzwilliam Town Library shall hereafter be open to the free use of every inhabitant of the town, under proper rules and regulations to be made by the Librarian and Supervisors for the care, preservation and return of the books.

The action thus described making this a *free public library* has greatly increased the demand for books, and a wide and promising field of usefulness is now open before it, as one of the important institutions of Fitzwilliam.

It should be generally known that this library contains a much larger proportion of very valuable books than can be found in most town libraries. Many standard works in history, biography, and science have a prominent place upon its shelves.

What proportion of the volumes drawn out and read may be classed as biographical, historical, scientific, or works of fiction, the reports of the supervisors do not give, but in most of our towns and cities, the latter exceed in number all the former. We are, however, informed that in Fitzwilliam there

is evidently a growing interest among the younger readers in works of the more valuable character.

The growth of the library and the increase in the number of readers is well shown by the following table, which is made up mainly from the reports of the supervisors. The table gives the number of volumes in the library, and the number of volumes issued during the twelve months ending March 1st of the year stated :

Year.	Volumes in Library.	Volumes issued, about	Year.	Volumes in Library.	Volumes Issued.
1871.....	475	....	1880.....	1,346	3,000
1873.....	500	....	1881.....	1,431	3,000
1874.....	840	1,550	1882.....	1,532	3,400
1875.....	943	1,575	1883.....	1,574	3,700
1876.....	1,059	1,600	1884.....	1,690	....
1877.....	1,123	2,500	1885.....	1,741	6,000
1878.....	1,177	2,600	1886.....	1,864	8,000
1879.....	1,237	3,000	1887.....	1,882	8,000

The first printed catalogue of the books was given to the public in the Town Reports of March, 1875. A complete catalogue was also printed in 1882, and lists of the additions made from time to time have been printed as convenience required.

In 1877 the library of the Unitarian Society, containing over four hundred volumes, was loaned to the town library, with which it still remains. The books of this library go into practical use as a part of the town library, but they are not included in the number of volumes as given in the preceding table.

At some future period (may the time be far distant, however) the town library is to receive a large and choice addition to its shelves. The late John J. Allen, Jr., a native of Fitzwilliam, but resident in Keene for many years as Register of Deeds of Cheshire County, bequeathed his valuable private library to the town of Fitzwilliam, to be delivered to the town

after the decease of his wife. This library is an exceptionally well-selected one, and contains a larger proportion of books in extra bindings than is usual in private libraries in the country. This addition will make our library one of the largest and best town libraries in the State. When this is received, and probably before, the library should have a better and more convenient room than it now occupies. Who will give the town a suitable library building?

THE LIBRARY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1.

The facts respecting this library have been kindly furnished by Mr. Elisha Chaplin.

On March 20th, 1858, there was a meeting of the people of this district to see if the district, as such, would accept of the gift of one hundred dollars left by Mr. Newell Bent for the purpose of establishing a district library. It was voted to accept this money, and a committee of three persons was raised to select and purchase books, viz., George Damon, John N. Richardson, and Winslow Phillips. At the same time the sum of twenty-five dollars was raised to meet expenses and to purchase a suitable bookcase.

At an adjourned meeting, held August 31st, 1858, Samuel S. Willard, Levi G. Smith, and Stillman Taylor were chosen as a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws.

The report which they made was accepted and adopted, and officers were chosen as follows: President, William Bent; Vice-President, Moses Chaplin; Librarian, Elisha Chaplin; Secretary, John N. Richardson; Treasurer, Charles Damon; Directors, William H. Shirley, Winslow Phillips, and George Damon.

In 1861 Levi G. Smith was chosen Vice-President, and in 1876 his place was taken by Jonas Damon. In 1882 Winslow Phillips was chosen Librarian. In 1876 Arthur L. Phillips was chosen Secretary, and he was succeeded in 1880 by William H. Shirley. John N. Richardson was the second Treasurer chosen in 1861, and he was succeeded in 1876 by Arthur L. Phillips, while in 1880 this office was filled by William H. Shirley.

In 1864 Levi G. Smith became one of the Directors, and in 1876 Elisha M. Bent became one likewise.

In 1868 the Sabbath-school of District No. 1 offered its library to the Bent Library Association, and it was accepted.

For twenty-five years this library has been maintained with a good degree of interest, and has been of great value to the people in the south-east part of the town. At the present time the number of volumes belonging to it is two hundred and seventy-three.

CHAPTER XIV.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Military Companies—Town Hall—Fire Department—Fitzwilliam Savings-Bank—Post-Offices—Population—Pauperism—Mortuary Record—Connection with the World—Merchants and Traders—Inns and Hotels—Free-Masons—Odd Fellows—Wild Animals.

ALL over New England, as was true in many other parts of our country, the defence of the colonies against the incursions of hostile Indians rendered from the first the establishment of some military organization of the utmost importance, while later the French and Indian wars increased the urgency of this demand. Hence, a very large proportion of the people on the frontiers were always armed and equipped with the instruments of war, and in this fact we find the chief reason why the American colonies were in a better condition to meet the armies of the mother country at the opening of the Revolution than they would have been if the early settlements had been made in a time of peace.

As is true in nearly all the towns of New England, the interest in the military affairs of Fitzwilliam centres largely in the measures adopted to secure the independence of our country from Great Britain, and to rescue the same from the hands of its enemies in the great Rebellion. In both these instances the loyalty to right of the people of this town awakened and kept alive the martial spirit till the great ends of freedom and justice were gained.

The war with Great Britain in 1812 had few to favor it among the inhabitants of this town, and it is not known that it furnished any soldiers for the regular army in that conflict.

What the town did in the Revolutionary War and also to suppress the Rebellion has been set forth in the two chapters devoted to those subjects. Previous to the Revolutionary War, as the difficulties between the colonies and the mother

country became more defined, a resort to arms seemed more certain, and measures of preparation for the coming struggle were taken by the various State and provincial legislative bodies, or by popular conventions called to consider the situation of affairs.

The men of Fitzwilliam voted February 23d, 1775, "to abide by the proceedings of the Continental Congress," and at a meeting held March 16th, 1775, a formal military organization was effected. At this meeting the town

Voted and Chose Mr John Mellen, Capt. of y^e Militia of y^e Town of Fitzwilliam

Voted and chose Mr Levi Brigham, Lieut.

Voted and chose Mr Samuel Kendall, Ensign.

Voted and chose Mr Daniel Mellen, Clark.

Voted and chose Messrs Caleb Winch, Reuben Pratt, Nathan Mixer, Benj. Davidson, Sarjants.

Voted and chose Messrs Leonard Brigham, Jonas Knight, David Perry, Ezekiel Mixer, Corporals.

This organization continued during the Revolutionary War, the company embracing all the men in town liable to do military duty, probably all the able-bodied men between the ages of sixteen and sixty.

As the population of the town increased, after the close of the Revolutionary War, another company was organized, and the town had two militia companies till the incorporation of Troy in 1815. The north company was the Third Company, and the south company was the Eighth Company of the Twelfth New Hampshire Regiment. Among the early captains of the north company may be named John Bowker, Daniel Farrar, David Gary, John Gary, and Aaron Wright, and of the south company Jesse Hayden, Ebenezer Cutler, John Fay, Moses Chaplin, Luke Kendall, Timothy Kendall, William Locke, and Josiah Osborne. The dividing line between the two companies was what is now called "the old road" from Richmond through Fitzwilliam village to Rindge. After the incorporation of Troy in 1815, there was only one company (of militia) in Fitzwilliam, the south company enlarging its borders and taking in that part of the north company that remained in the town.

From time to time the laws of the State were modified with regard to the age when men became exempt from military duty, the number of days' service required of the enrolled men annually, the imposition of fines for the lack of arms and equipment, or for non-attendance at meetings for military drill, etc., but for a long course of years provision was always made for a large and effective body of citizen soldiery, to be held in readiness to repel foreign invasion or put down civil insurrection.

As the records of the Fitzwilliam companies for these early years have not been preserved, it is impossible to give any history of the companies even so far as to give a correct list of the captains. In 1825 a complete reorganization of the military system of New Hampshire was effected, and in 1826 the Adjutant-General of the State issued new orders respecting military service within the State, from which it appears that

every free, able-bodied, white, male citizen, resident within the limits of any standing Company in the State who is of the age of 18 years and under the age of 45 years, (except such as are absolutely exempted from doing military duty, or hold a military commission in some other corps, or belong to some Independent Company raised at large) must, severally and respectively, be enrolled therein by the Captain or commanding Officer of such Company.

From 1827 the records of the Fitzwilliam Infantry Company (which was the Second Company in the Twelfth Regiment, Fifth Brigade, and Third Division of the New Hampshire Militia) are full, and contain much valuable information. This company included all the men of Fitzwilliam liable to military duty, except the members of the Artillery Company and the Fire-Engine Men, who were, while members of the Engine Company, exempt.

Persons between forty and forty-five years of age, by complying with certain conditions, became "Conditional Exempts," and physicians came under the same rule; but the names of all of both these classes were, by law, borne upon the Roll of the Infantry Company.

As a matter of course, the Infantry Company in any town with the population of Fitzwilliam at that period would be

large. Naturally it varied considerably during different years, running from seventy-five to one hundred and fifty, of whom ten to twenty were "Conditional Exempts." At a later date the age limit of such exempts was lowered to thirty-five years. In 1827 the captain of the Infantry Company was Ephraim Parker, while Nahum Howe was lieutenant, and Levi Harris, ensign.

It is believed that the following is a complete list of the captains of this company from and after 1827 :

Ephraim Parker, 1827-8.	Lewis Moore, 1841-3.
Nahum Howe, 1829-30.	Charles C. Carter, 1844-5.
Levi Harris, 1831.	Samuel Kendall, 1846.
Nathan Whipple, 1832-3.	Thos. W. Whittemore, 1847.
Thomas Sweetser, 1834-5.	Daniel Forristall, Jr., 1848-9.
Morrill Gilman, 1836-9.	William Brooks, 1850-5.
John Forristall, 1840.	

CAVALRY.

In addition to the infantry companies, the Twelfth New Hampshire Regiment had for perhaps twenty years or more two companies of cavalry. The First Company was made up from Rindge, Jaffrey, and Fitzwilliam, and the Second Company from Dublin, Nelson, and Marlborough. It is not certainly known when these companies were formed, but it was probably several years before the close of the last century. The First Company, in which Fitzwilliam was included, was disbanded about 1820. So far as known no records of this company have been preserved, and the traditions concerning it are very meagre ; but among its commanding officers who resided in Fitzwilliam were Thomas Goldsmith, Joseph Winch, Charles Bowker, and Phinehas Reed.

THE ARTILLERY COMPANY.

That this section of the State was particularly interested in military affairs is shown by the fact that nearly every town in the Twelfth Regiment had a uniformed or independent company, in addition to the militia company or companies which paraded in citizens' dress. The older inhabitants of Fitzwill-

iam will remember the Jaffrey Rifle Company, the Dublin Grenadiers, Rindge Light Infantry, Nelson Riflemen, and Marlborough Light Infantry. The friendly rivalry between these companies as to which should make the best appearance in drill and uniform continued through successive years, and resulted in making the regiment one of the very best in the State.

In 1807 both Fitzwilliam and Dublin made very active efforts to obtain a charter for an artillery company. In this competition Fitzwilliam was the successful town, owing mainly to the skilful management of the case by Major Jonas Robeson, who took a great interest in the measure, though he was not the representative to the Legislature from Fitzwilliam that year. Dublin, not obtaining the artillery charter, organized at this time the Company of Grenadiers to which reference has been made. The formal organization of the Artillery Company in Fitzwilliam was effected October 1st, 1807, and the record of the proceedings is as follows :

At a meeting of a number of the Inhabitants, assembled at Captain Thomas Goldsmiths', Thursday Evening the 1st day of Oct. 1807 for the purpose of chosing officers and (making) other arrangements to obtain an Artillery Company in this town—transacted the following business, viz.

1. Chose Major Wiliam Farrar, Moderator.
2. Chose Joseph Carter, Clerk.
3. Chose Major Jonas Robeson for Captain.
4. Chose Lieut. Wm. F. Perry, 1st Lieutenant.
5. Chose Dr. Benjamin Bemis 2d “
6. Chose a Committee of three to draft an obligation for individuals to assist in the Equipping of said Company. Chose Jonas Roberson, Esqr. Dr. Benjamin Bemis and Phineas Reed Esqr—for said Committee.
7. Voted to choose a Committee of five to obtain signors for the Equipping of said Company, according to the report of the above-mentioned Committee ; and chose Major William Farrar, Samuel Patch, Amos Pratt, Thomas Stratton, and Captain Thomas Goldsmith for said Com.

William Farrer Moderator.

A true copy. Attest Joseph Carter, Clerk.

Oct. 1. 1807.

It is said that Dr. Bemis received a regimental appointment, in consequence of which Joseph Brigham was commissioned second lieutenant in the Artillery. William F. Perry was

lieutenant in the Cavalry Company, from which he was transferred to the Artillery Company. Such was the commencement of this company, which was so long noted for its excellent discipline and general good appearance. In 1837 the company obtained a new charter and was entirely reorganized. From 1807 to 1838 the full company consisted of three commissioned officers, four musicians, and thirty-two privates. In 1839 the number of privates was increased to sixty-four, of whom thirty-two bore swords and were the proper artillery men, and thirty-two bore muskets. At the same time the company received a new cannon, a six-pounder, taking the place of the four-pounder they had previously held.

CAPTAINS OF THE ARTILLERY COMPANY.

Jonas Robeson, 1807.
 William F. Perry.
 Joseph Brigham.
 Daniel W. Farrar.
 Artemas Felton.
 Calvin Coolidge.
 Nathaniel S. Stone, 1820-1.
 Curtis Coolidge, 1822-3.
 Dexter Whittemore, 1824-6.
 Jonathan S. Adams, 1827-9.
 Asa Brewer, 1830-2.
 Martin Streeter, 1833.
 Elijah Bowker, 1834.

Levi Haskell, 1835.
 Reuben B. Pratt, 1836-8.
 Jonathan S. Adams, 1839.
 Erastus Brown, 1840.
 Nelson Howe, 1841.
 William Lebourveau, 1842.
 Matthias B. Felton, 1843.
 Almond Phillips, 1844.
 David Perry, 1845-6.
 Daniel C. Bissell, 1847.
 Jared D. Perkins, 1848.
 Andrew Parker, 1849-50.
 Moses Chaplin, Jr., 1851-3.

The last entry in the record book of the company is as follows :

Fitzwilliam Artillery

Enrolled according to law on the third Tuesday of May 1853

Moses Chaplin jr Capt

Attest William Pratt Clerk

About 1850 the laws of the State were so changed that only a formal enrollment of the persons liable to do military duty was required, and a few years later even this ceased to be obligatory.

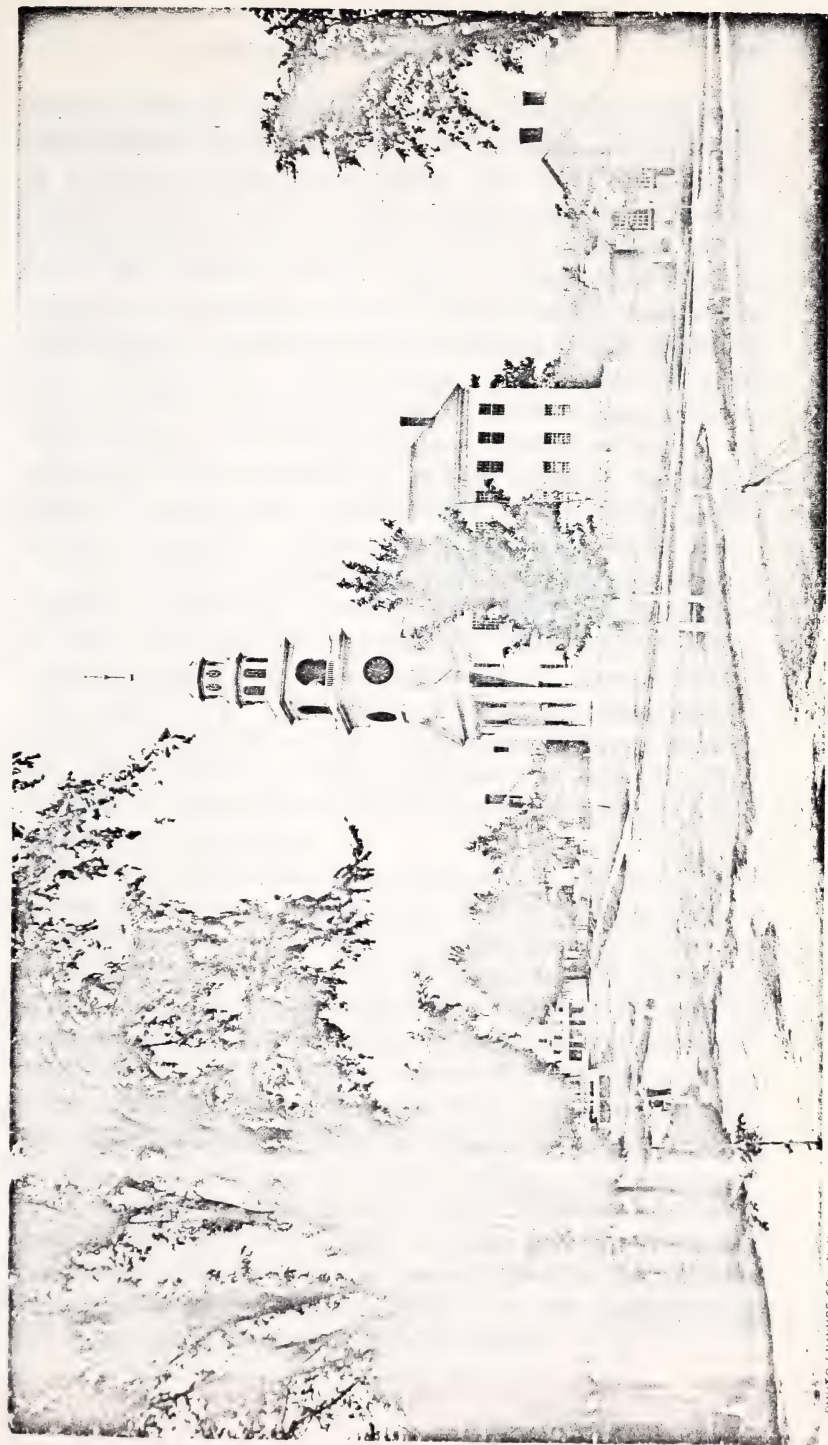
TOWN HALL.

The history of this edifice is so peculiar that it deserves a notice in this record.

Nearly all of the present generation know, and future generations ought to know, that this building was erected not for town purposes, but as a house for divine worship. As has been already stated in this history, it was built in 1817, and stands upon the spot occupied by its predecessor that was erected in 1816, and after being dedicated and used for public religious services nine Sabbaths, was fired by lightning, January 17th, 1817, and burned to the ground with all its contents.

A glance at the Town Hall will show that this building was erected before the present style of church architecture had become popular, but it is none the worse for that. For nearly seventy years strangers have admired its pleasant and convenient location and its harmonious proportions, which are in striking contrast with many church edifices of the present day.

The house that was burned cost about seven thousand dollars, the town in its corporate capacity appropriating for its erection the sum of four hundred dollars. After the settlement of the bills for building, etc., there remained a debt upon the house amounting to about two thousand dollars. One year and twenty days after the dedication of its predecessor, the house now standing was dedicated and used at once for the usual religious services. Its cost was six thousand and sixty-four dollars, but about one thousand of this was generously contributed by natives of Fitzwilliam and other friends residing elsewhere. At the sale of the pews the large sum of seven thousand six hundred and ninety-nine dollars and ninety-four cents was realized, which was sufficient to meet all the bills incurred by the erection of the new house, and to liquidate the debt contracted in the building of its predecessor. Early in 1817, and soon after the destruction of the first house, the town had voted to build another and had appropriated fifteen hundred dollars for this purpose, but how this appropriation was used, if used at all, the records do not show, possibly in part to pay for the land upon which the churches had been



erected, although Phinehas Reed, Esq., of whom most of the land had been purchased, appears to have taken his pay largely in the pews of the second house. In 1815 Mr. Reed had deeded his lot of land to the town for the purpose of erecting a church upon it, and the price which the town was to pay for it was five hundred dollars. About the same time Solomon Alexander conveyed to the town for one hundred dollars some additional land adjoining the lot purchased of Mr. Reed, and Rev. John Sabin gave to the town a part of the land which was afterward used for horse-sheds or stables. Samuel Griffin, David Stone, and Joseph Brigham, being a committee appointed for this purpose, seem to have prepared the ground, erected the sheds, and sold the same to individuals, so that the town acquired no rights in the sheds themselves.

The committee appointed to build the meeting-house now standing, to sell the pews, and to give titles to them consisted of Jonas Robinson, Charles Bowker, Thaddeus Cummings, Luther Chapman, and John Whittmore, and these gentlemen were aided by a "Consulting Committee" consisting of Phinehas Reed, Nahum Parker, Abel Baker, Thomas Richardson, Samuel Griffin, Joseph Brigham, and John J. Allen. Pew No. 1 was set apart for the minister, and three pews were reserved in the galleries.

For fifteen years after its erection this was the only church edifice in the town, and the town as such paid the salary of its minister, Rev. John Sabin, up to March 5th, 1832. For five years or more before this date (as has been already stated in the chapter upon later ecclesiastical history), an increasing divergence in the religious views of the people had been manifesting itself, and this led to the erection of a new meeting-house by the Orthodox Society in 1832. Public worship was now maintained in two places, in addition to which occasional services were held by the Baptist Society. The pulpit and pews remained in what is now the town house as when they were first built till 1860. Many of those who had withdrawn and formed a new society still owned pews in the building, and the condition of things relating to it was unsatisfactory and embarrassing to all the parties concerned.

In 1854 the subject of altering the meeting-house and using a part or parts of it for other than religious purposes was discussed in town meeting, and a committee to consider and report upon the matter was raised, consisting of Amos A. Parker, Jonathan S. Adams, Charles C. Carter, Asa Brewer, and Samuel Kendall. No plan proposed proving acceptable to the town, in 1857 the town offered to sell the church edifice to the Orthodox Society, this society having recently lost its house of worship by fire. The committee appointed to negotiate with that Society for this purpose consisted of Amos A. Parker, David Perry, and A. Stone, Jr. Captain J. S. Adams, in behalf of the Orthodox Society, offered to pay five hundred dollars for the upper part of the church, and to meet one half of the expenses of outside repairs, after the repairs then going on should have been completed. This plan was discussed in town meeting and laid upon the table. Later, the town gave to the Orthodox Society the use of the building and pulpit for one year.

In 1858 the town voted to sell such portions of the lower part of the building as were not needed for town purposes, and to fit up the upper part for a town hall, and appointed as a committee to make a plan for this purpose, estimate expenses, learn how a title to the pews could be obtained, and what amount such a portion of the building as was offered for sale would bring. This committee consisted of Amos A. Parker, Esq., Elijah Bowker, and Josiah E. Carter. No definite results having been reached, the town, in 1858, considered a motion to sell the whole lot, with the building upon it, at auction, but legal difficulties having been suggested, because of the rights of the pew-owners, the matter was indefinitely postponed, the vote standing fifty-four to eighty-six. In 1858 the town expended for repairs upon the building three hundred and fifty-four dollars and forty-two cents, and a year later paid A. A. Parker, as "a Committee on the Meeting House," the sum of eleven dollars and ninety-two cents.

In the same year, viz., 1858, the Legislature of New Hampshire passed an act authorizing towns with meeting-houses in which they had certain rights, and pew-holders had others, to

sell such houses at auction, the proceeds to be divided among the proprietors, owners, and pew-holders, according to their respective interests in the same, which interests were to be determined by the County Commissioners. The passage of this act removed the legal restraint to the sale of the house, and the town voted one hundred and one to twenty-seven, to sell it at auction, and appointed an agent to bid it off at the sale. This was done, the town taking it at the bid of one thousand dollars. Previous to this the selectmen of Jaffrey had been selected by the town and the Orthodox Society to appraise the pews in the house. Those in the lower part were appraised by them at from three to fifteen dollars each, six of them only at the highest price. The thirty-eight pews in the gallery were deemed worth two dollars each, and the whole amount of the appraisal was six hundred and forty-eight dollars.

April 12th, 1859, the County Commissioners John A. Prescott, Lawson Robertson, and Willard Adams met in Fitzwilliam and made the division of the one thousand dollars which the town paid for the house, as follows : viz., the town to receive six hundred and fifty-one dollars and the pew-owners the remainder, or three hundred and forty-nine dollars. The pews upon the lower floor thus brought to their owners from one dollar to nine dollars each, and those in the galleries from seventy-five cents to one dollar and twenty-five cents each.

The town had already voted that when a clear title to the pews should be secured it would sell a portion of the house to School District No. 5 or any other School District, and this offer was repeated by a vote of the town, May 7th, 1859, the division of the voters present showing forty-four in favor of this plan and seventeen against it. The selectmen were made a committee to effect the sale.

As this plan also miscarried, the town voted in 1860 to appropriate the upper part of the house for a town hall, and appointed as a committee to carry this vote into effect Dr. Silas Cummings, Joshua T. Collins, and Asa S. Kendall. Five hundred dollars were appropriated for this object, which sum must have been largely increased after the changes contem-

plated were entered upon, since the report of the selectmen made March 12th, 1861, shows that there had been paid for the Town Hall repairs and changes during the year closing at that time fourteen hundred and twenty-five dollars and thirty-one cents.

Later, commencing with 1868, various improvements were made in the lower story, which now furnishes an office for the town clerk, a room for the selectmen, spacious quarters for the town library, and a convenient hall for the smaller gatherings of the people, all very complete and satisfactory.

The bell upon the Town House has been recently recast and replaced at a cost to the town of three hundred and one dollars and five cents. This new bell weighs fifteen hundred and twenty-four pounds. It should be observed in this place that both the original bell and the town clock were purchased and put in position by private subscriptions, the town by vote granting to the individuals specially interested liberty to make these improvements.*

Reference may here be appropriately made to the improvements that have taken place upon and around the Common within the last fifty or sixty years. Within the memory of persons hardly threescore years old no house was standing between the dwelling of Miss Dyer and the Richmond Road, but the lots upon which are the houses of Messrs. Blake, Fisher, and Gleason constituted the dooryard of the small house just back of the home of Amos J. Blake, Esq. The east fence of this yard at that date was about where the stone curbing was recently put down in front of the three houses just named, while farther south the front fence of the garden of Dexter Whittemore, Esq., was about in the middle of the street as it is now used for travel. The ground toward the south-east part of the Common, as it now is, was low, and there a small pond was made by every considerable rain or heavy shower.

In front of an old wood-colored house, north of the Common,

* It is understood that for the clock the town is largely indebted to the public spirit and energy of Miss Ellen Fullam, since the project of procuring it, and the self-denying labor involved in obtaining subscriptions for it, were chiefly her work.

where the brick house now stands, were three or four tall Lombardy poplars, which were the only trees designed for ornament in that part of the village, while two similar trees stood on the side of the road below the other end of the Common, and near the residence of the late Dr. Cummings.

But more than forty years ago a Society for Village Improvement had been organized, for in November, 1844, the town "Voted that 'the Tree Society' make such improvements on the Common as the Selectmen may consent to."

Under this vote trees were set out on the Common and the land was somewhat improved to give them a better chance for life and growth.

And in March, 1860, the town "Voted that leave be granted to 'the Fitzwilliam Association to improve the Public Grounds,' to enclose a portion of the Common with a suitable fence and otherwise improve it under the direction of the Selectmen." Accordingly, in the same year, the fence was built and the land still further improved.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Ever since its settlement Fitzwilliam has suffered more by fires than most towns of its size and population. A full list of the buildings and property consumed in this place within one hundred and twenty years it is impossible to give, but that which is presented in this connection, and is made up from tradition and the memory of some of the older natives and inhabitants of the town, is a long one, and embraces the loss of many valuable buildings.

This sad experience has had a good effect in two particulars, for it has made the owners of property liable to destruction by fire more and more careful about the amounts and safety of their insurance, and it has kept before the minds of the people the necessity of maintaining an efficient fire department.

The Fitzwilliam Engine Company was incorporated in 1825, and since that date the town has had a better fire

department and better engines than three fourths of the New England towns of the same size, wealth, and population.

Fire wardens were first chosen by the town in 1825, and have been annually elected ever since. In general they have had such an organization as they have deemed necessary, and have made such regulations to guard against and extinguish fires as the law has allowed and the public safety required. For a considerable period they do not appear to have made formal reports to the town, but this has been done, as required by law, since 1876.

Fitzwilliam has had three fire-engines, and each of these, when purchased, was considered a very efficient machine for the times. But everything of this kind will grow old and wear out, and so when the wardens reported in 1876 that the engine company was composed of men "who could be relied on for promptness, and (with proper tools and equipments) efficient," they were compelled to add that the "engine and hose were entirely inadequate for the extinguishment of any considerable fire." The force of this statement being appreciated, a committee was appointed for the purchase of a new fire-engine, consisting of John E. Fisher, C. L. Taft, Chauncey Davis, Melvin Wilson, and George A. Whittemore, and they reported, a year later, that they had bought a new engine, hose-carriage, hose and other equipments costing the town (exclusive of a donation of freight bills by the Cheshire Railroad) five hundred and sixty dollars and fifty cents. The freight donation amounted to forty-nine dollars and twenty-five cents. The department was now in a good condition for service.

In 1879 three hundred feet of new hose were purchased.

As no record of the fires in Fitzwilliam has ever been kept, the list that follows is imperfect :

CHURCHES.

Town Meeting-House. Jan. 17, 1817; erected, 1816; cost, \$7000.

Orthodox " Jan. 15, 1856; erected in 1832.

DWELLINGS WITH OUT-HOUSES, BARNS, ETC.

- Samuel Patrick..... On east road to Troy; rebuilt, 1785.
 John Mellen, Esq..... Date unknown.
 Joel Mellen..... A special list of all the houses in town
 in 1798 above one hundred dollars in
 value gives the situation of this
 house as "N. west from the center
 under the great hill," and states that
 "this house was burnt the last of
 Dec'r, 1798." In a list of all the
 lands in town made at the same time
 the location is given as on Lot 16 in
 Range 9.
- Jesse Forristall Dec. 19, 1808. Where H. N. Fair-
 banks now lives.
- Caleb Winch..... May, 1809; grandson burned in it; age
 7 years.
- Josiah Ingalls 1829. Where Wm. Lebourveau now
 lives.
- Wm. S. Whittemore. About 1833. Where Bartlett Hayden
 lives.
- Jacob Felton..... About 1839. Where Rev. A. Dunn
 resides.
- Dr. Silas Cummings.. About 1843. Where Mrs. Cummings
 resides.
- Noah Sabin 1863. In the village.
- Mrs. Martha Fisher .. N. W. corner of town.
- Joel Whittemore..... Feb. 4, 1872. In the village, opposite
 the school-house.
- Wm. O. Carkin..... March 3, 1876.
- Anson G. Beebe... }
 Josiah Moore..... } Aug. 10, 1876.
- Philip Boyce..... May 19, 1878.
- Amos McGee..... 1879; rebuilt on same spot.
- Geo. N. Olmstead ... 1879, in S. E. part of town.
- Frederick Redwood .. March 28, 1881, with barn, etc.; ins.,
 \$7500.
- Gilbert C. Bemis Dec. 27, 1884.
- Z. A. Boyce..... Oct. 27, 1885.

MANUFACTORIES AND SHOPS.

- Howe & Sweetser.... Two at Howeville.
 Jacob Simonds At Lower Howeville.
 Elijah Bowker..... At Bowkerville.
 Geo. W. Simonds.... Scott Mill.
 Elisha Chaplin..... June 18, 1883, where the first saw-mill
 in District No. 1 was built by Samuel Divol.
 John Kimball Blacksmith shop.
 Asa S. Kendall..... Tannery, on old Troy Road.
 Moses A. Allen..... Store-house, formerly the dwelling-
 house of Nahum Howe, Sr.; was
 built by him.

BARNs, ETC., CONSUMED.

ON FAY PLACE.

- W. D. Locke.....
 J. S. Adams Aug. 20, 1878.
 D. T. Moore.....
 Nathan Whipple.....

School-house, in District No. 1, 1808 ?
 " " " " " 11, 1845 ?

FITZWILLIAM SAVINGS-BANK.

This history would be incomplete without a brief notice of this important institution.

It was not organized to bring riches or influence to its projectors and officers, for all engaged in conducting its affairs, with the single exception of the treasurer, serve the public in this capacity without compensation ; but its design, as set forth upon the last page of each depositor's book,

is to enable the industrious of all classes to invest such part of their income as they can conveniently spare in a safe and profitable manner. It is intended to encourage the industrious and prudent, and to induce those who have not been such to lessen their unnecessary expenses, and lay up something for a period of life when they will be less able to provide for themselves. Every clerk, apprentice, domestic and child should have an account with some bank of this kind.

Two facts led to the establishment of the Fitzwilliam Savings-Bank.

1. The inconvenience that the people of this town must always encounter in making deposits in and drawing their funds from other savings-banks, because they are located at such a distance from Fitzwilliam.

2. Because of the nature of some of our industrial pursuits, notably the granite business, there is, and for many years to come will be, a large number of persons in this town who should enjoy the benefits of such an institution.

These considerations led a number of the business men of this place to apply for a charter of a savings-bank to be located in Fitzwilliam, which was granted in the usual form July 13th, 1871, with Stephen Batcheller, Amos A. Parker, Phillip S. Batcheller, Josiah E. Carter, John Whittemore, George W. Simonds, Charles C. Carter, Silas Cummings, Norman U. Cahill, Anson G. Beebe, Amos J. Blake, and George A. Whittemore as corporators.

A constitution and by-laws were adopted, and the first board of officers chosen as follows :

President, Stephen Batcheller.

Vice-Presidents, Josiah E. Carter, Daniel R. Spaulding.

Secretary and Treasurer, Milton Chaplin.

Trustees : Silas Cummings, Amos J. Blake, Edward P. Kimball, John Whittemore, John M. Parker, Samuel Kendall, Abner Gage, Norman U. Cahill, Reuben Angier, George W. Simonds, Aaron R. Gleason, William Wright, Ambrus W. Spaulding.

Financial Committee : Daniel R. Spaulding, Amos J. Blake, John M. Parker.

The institution has been satisfactorily successful, fully meeting the expectations of its friends and projectors.

The amount due to depositors January 1st, 1887, was one hundred and fifty thousand, nine hundred and eighty-nine dollars and thirty-six cents, with a surplus and guarantee fund of eight thousand five hundred and forty-three dollars and ninety-six cents, making a total amount, as standing in the books, of one hundred and fifty-nine thousand, five hundred and thirty-

three dollars and thirty-two cents, but with an actual market value of one hundred and sixty-three thousand, three hundred and ninety-eight dollars and fifteen cents.

The officers for 1887 are :

President, Amos J. Blake.

Vice-President, Josiah E. Carter.

Secretary and Treasurer, Stephen Batcheller.

Trustees : John M. Parker, Kimball D. Webster, Aaron R. Gleason, Samuel Kendall, Elbridge Cummings, Wright Whitcomb, Charles Byam, Edwin N. Bowen, Chauncey Davis, Melvin Wilson, Edmund Bemis, Herbert E. Wetherbee, Reuben L. Angier.

Board of Investment : John M. Parker, Charles Byam, Reuben L. Angier, Amos J. Blake, Stephen Batcheller.

POST-OFFICES.

So far as the Records of the Post-Office Department show, the Fitzwilliam Post-Office was established in 1805, and Jonas Robeson was appointed postmaster.

The following is a list of the persons who have held the office of postmaster to the present time, with the date of their commissions :

Jonas Robeson.....	August 23, 1805.
Curtis Coolidge.....	December 25, 1819.
Gideon C. Noble.....	March 28, 1837.
Jared D. Perkins.....	May 23, 1842.
Phillip S. Batcheller....	October 16, 1849.
Silas Cummings.....	March 27, 1855.
Phillip S. Batcheller.....	May 1, 1861.
George A. Whittemore.....	November 2, 1866.
Phillip S. Batcheller....	December 10, 1866.
Elliot K. Wheelock.....	July 14, 1885.
Thomas B. Burns.....	October 22, 1885.

John J. Allen, Jr., was appointed in 1849, but as he did not qualify, he never received his commission.

This office was made a money-order office in 1884, and as such it is a great convenience to many.

In 1866 a post-office was established at Fitzwilliam Depot. Postmasters as follows :

Elbridge Cummings.....March 27, 1866.

Calvin B. Perry.....August 24, 1885.

This office is kept in the store of Mr. Perry.

As Mr. Robeson had a store in the village when he became postmaster, the office was doubtless kept in it, at first in the house known afterward as the Everett House, and later in the two-story wing of his dwelling, when the store was removed to that place. Mr. Coolidge kept the office in the same place.

When Dr. G. C. Noble became postmaster he removed the office to the building now owned and occupied by Messrs. P. S. & S. Batcheller, and it remained in the same place for about forty-eight years, with the exception of about five years, when Dr. Cummings, as postmaster, kept it in the Robeson store and a few weeks while George A. Whittemore was postmaster, when it was kept in the store of D. Whittemore.

At present the office is located in the store so long occupied by John Whittemore, Jr.

When the Fitzwilliam Post-Office was established in 1805, and for some years after, there do not appear to have been post-offices in some of the neighboring towns, particularly in Richmond and Rindge, and the mail for the people of those towns came chiefly through the Fitzwilliam office. The Rindge office was established in 1815, Richmond in 1812.*

That this town had good postal facilities so early is accounted for by the fact that the "Great Road" from Boston and vicinity to Keene and the Northwest passed through this town, thus inviting the establishment, very early, of a regular line of stages.

* From the History of Jaffrey :

Owing to the fire which burned the Department Building at Washington, Dec. 15, 1836, in which the earliest books of the office were destroyed, the exact time of the establishment of the Post-Office in Jaffrey cannot be ascertained. The first quarterly accounts began April 1, 1801. The Fitzwilliam office may have been established before 1805.

In the New Hampshire *Sentinel*, bearing date April 23d, 1808, the following advertisement appeared :

"List of Letters remaining in the Post Office Fitzwilliam N. H. April 1. 1808 :—

Fitzwilliam. Capt. John Bowker. '

Miss Rizpah Whipple.

Richmond. Capt. Benjamin Crooker.

Rindge. Doctor Stephen Jewett, 3.

" Talman Jennings 3, John F. Munro, Daniel Lake, John Bancroft, Asa Rand, Daniel Page, Doctor Josiah Whitney.

Jonas Robinson P. M."

A similar advertisement, dated July 6th, 1810, is signed "Jonas Robeson P M"

At a little earlier date some of the post-offices served a much wider extent of country. The office in Worcester, Mass., substantially served nearly the whole of Worcester County. In the Massachusetts *Spy*, 1801, the Postmaster of Worcester advertised letters for nearly all the towns in the county, and for some of the towns in the adjoining counties.

The location of the Fitzwilliam post-offices is such that the people generally are well served by them, with the exception of some of the inhabitants of School District No. 1, who are better accommodated through the office of Winchendon, Mass.

POPULATION.

A brief statement relative to the population of New Hampshire, while it was one of the American provinces of Great Britain, will not be inappropriate in this connection.

The settlement of this province commenced early, but its growth was slow when compared with the States and Territories of our Union that have been organized within the last sixty years.

No general census of the United States was taken before 1790, so that for nearly one hundred and fifty years the figures representing the population of New Hampshire were mostly a matter of computation. The calculations of differ-

ent persons equally well qualified to judge were not the same, but in general it may be supposed that there were in the province in 1640 a little less than one thousand inhabitants. In 1690 there may have been five thousand, and forty years later ten thousand.

The first counties were organized in 1771, when the province contained less than seventy thousand inhabitants. In 1775 the number had increased to eighty-two thousand two hundred. During the Revolutionary War New Hampshire furnished twelve thousand four hundred and ninety-seven men, and a rapid increase of population could not have been expected in that period. Nevertheless, in 1790, according to the United States Census, New Hampshire had not far from one hundred and forty-two thousand inhabitants.

Fitzwilliam was one of the last towns settled in Southern New Hampshire, and in 1762 the single family of Benjamin Bigelow contained the entire white population.

It is proposed to present here, at a single view, the population of this and the adjoining towns at the various periods when a reliable enumeration has been made.

Date.	Fitzwilliam.	Troy.	Marlborough.	Rindge.	Jaffrey.	Richmond.
1767.....	93	....	93	298	....	338
1773.....	214		275	604	303	745
1775.....	250	Incor-	322	542	351	864
1786.....	870	porat-	618	759	....	1,250
1790.....	1,038	ed in	786	1,143	1,235	1,386
1800.....	1,240	1815.	1,185	1,196	1,340	1,390
1810.....	1,301		1,142	1,226	1,336	1,290
1820.....	1,167	676	766	1,298	1,339	1,391
1830.....	1,229	676	822	1,269	1,354	1,301
1840.....	1,366	683	831	1,161	1,411	1,165
1850.....	1,482	759	887	1,274	1,497	1,128
1860.....	1,292	761	915	1,230	1,453	1,014
1870.....	1,140	767	1,017	1,107	1,256	868
1880.....	1,187	796	1,286	934	1,267	669

In June, 1877, Everard Whittemore, a native of Fitzwilliam, took a complete census of the town, and this was printed for circulation by his father, George A. Whittemore. This gives the name of each inhabitant of the town, with the date and place of birth, and is arranged alphabetically. The total population was found to be thirteen hundred and fourteen, which exceeds the United States enumeration of 1870 by one hundred and seventy-four, and that of 1880 by one hundred and twenty-seven. This difference is probably to be accounted for by supposing a more careful and nearly perfect enumeration of the inhabitants on the part of Mr. Whittemore, rather than by concluding that there had been such a change in the population of the town as these figures would indicate.

The statement of ages given is as follows :

Under 10 years.....	268	From 50 to 60 years....	112
From 10 to 20 years....	241	“ 60 to 70 “	78
“ 20 to 30 “	208	“ 70 to 80 “	60
“ 30 to 40 “	186	“ 80 to 90 “	19
“ 40 to 50 “	140	“ 90 to 100 “	2

The enterprise of all the parties concerned in taking and printing this census of 1877 was highly creditable.

The census of 1773, taken about the time of the incorporation of the town and preparatory to it, showed of unmarried men eighteen, married men forty-four, persons under sixteen years of age, fifty-five, females married forty-four, females unmarried fifty-three, total two hundred and fourteen.

The population in 1775, as given in the table, was not returned by the town officers, but was estimated and filled in by the officials, probably at Exeter, acting under the authority of the Convention which met in that place. The population was probably a little less than the round number given—two hundred and fifty. The census of 1773 was taken by John Mellen and Edward Kendall, selectmen. That of 1786 was taken April 20th by John Fassett, Abner Stone, and Caleb Winch. The entire population at that time was white.

When Troy was incorporated in 1815 Fitzwilliam lost about forty-five hundred acres of land, or about one sixth part of its

territory, and not far from two hundred and ten of its inhabitants, perhaps two hundred and twenty. The loss of the neighboring town of Richmond at the same time and for the same reason was small, perhaps one ninth or one tenth as large as that of Fitzwilliam.

A glance at the table of population given on page 369 will show that, considering all the circumstances of the case, and especially the diminution in the number of its inhabitants by the incorporation of Troy, Fitzwilliam has well maintained its population, while the loss experienced by some of its neighbors, notably Rindge and Richmond, has been very considerable.

CEMETERY AND DEATHS.

In the early years of Fitzwilliam the remains of eight or ten persons were buried in a lot belonging to a Mr. Warner, in School District No. 1, and tradition asserts that there were two other burials in private ground in that part of the town. Twelve or fifteen persons were buried on Lot 20 in Range 11, now within the limits of Troy. This place was originally enclosed by a stone wall, except at the place of entrance, but the wall is now very much broken down, and the lot is overgrown with trees. A number were buried also in what is now the old cemetery of Troy, before the incorporation of that town, but how many it is impossible to say, though it is not supposed that such cases were numerous.

Occasionally, in the case of persons dying from small-pox, there are supposed to have been burials in unknown places, as the safety of the community might demand. And in later years there have been a few burials in Winchendon from the southeast part of the town.

With these exceptions, the old cemetery on the hill (with the additions made to it in later years) has been the single burying-place of the dead of Fitzwilliam from the beginning.

The history of the laying out of this burying-ground has been already given in Chapter V., but it may be remarked in this place that a committee of five, appointed by the proprietors in 1768, after a careful examination, reported in 1770, in

favor of placing the meeting-house and locating the cemetery on the easterly part of Lot No. 13, in Range 7, and that "five acres of land be laid out for public use where Jason Stone-child is buried."

Thaddeus, son of Jason Stone, died, April 30th, 1769, from being scalded, and was the first recorded death in Monadnock No. 4; and the burial of this child in that place was doubtless in anticipation of the act of the proprietors in locating as they did the cemetery.

That there was a great lack of regularity and convenience of access in the arrangements of the ancient lot is not a matter for surprise, when we recall the circumstances under which the earlier interments were made.

In 1846 it was deemed necessary to provide additional land for the cemetery, as the ground originally laid out was nearly all occupied. The land required was purchased of Mr. John Kimball, and it gave an opportunity for extensive and much-needed improvements.

This cemetery was doubtless located where it is chiefly because of its central position, and this will always be a most weighty reason for enlarging those grounds rather than seeking a new locality, if more space shall be needed. On every account it is very desirable that the interests and associations connected with the burial of the dead in a town like Fitzwilliam shall be gathered around a single place. In many towns in New England nearly every school district had originally its cemetery, with the result that many of these present to-day a most unsightly appearance. Not a few towns could be named with ten or twelve burial-grounds, besides several family yards, and in nearly all such cases the stranger who looks for neatness, care, and refined taste in a burying-ground, too often will discover evidence of culpable neglect, if not of positive and unchecked dilapidation.

No pains have been spared to make the table that follows accurate, but that it is perfectly so cannot be supposed. All the early pastors, especially Revs. Messrs. Brigham and Sabin (whose ministry covered nearly seventy years), appear to have made full and faithful records of the deaths that occurred dur-

ing their respective pastorates, while in later times a number of individuals have preserved lists of the mortality of the place, all of which have been used to a greater or less extent in preparing and correcting this table.

It is confidently believed that few towns, if any, in New England have the means of making up so full and so nearly a correct list of deaths, covering a period of one hundred and eighteen years, as is here presented.

The first column in the table gives the total number of deaths in each decade. The last period, however, includes but eight years.

The second column gives the years.

The third column gives the whole number of deaths in town during the year.

The columns four to fifteen classify deaths according to ages, so far as ages are known.

The columns sixteen and seventeen give the number of deaths with no ages recorded, the column sixteen giving the number designated as, or supposed to have been, children, and the column seventeen giving the number known or supposed to have been adults.

The column eighteen includes all those who, dying elsewhere, are known to have been buried in Fitzwilliam. The number of these, especially in later years, has been large, but such cases are not included in the sum total.

Total deaths for each decade.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
			Total number of deaths in the year.	Under 5 years of age.	5 to 10.	10 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	60 to 70.	70 to 80.	80 to 90.	90 to 100.	Over 100.	Children.	Adults.	Died elsewhere; interred in Fitzwilliam.
31	1769	1	1															
	1770	2														2		
	1771	0																
	1772	2	2															
	1773	2	2															
	1774	0																
	1775	2						1								1		
	1776	4	1					1									2	
	1777	12	4			1		1		1	1					3	1	
	1778	6	2			1								1		1	1	
78	1779	2								1							1	
	1780	10	4													3	3	
	1781	9	6			1					1						1	
	1782	7	6				1											
	1783	8	3			1	1									2	1	
	1784	9	3	2					1		3							
	1785	10	6													4		
	1786	11	4	1	1					1						4		
	1787	3	2														1	
	1788	9	5				1									1	2	
154	1789	10	8					1								1		1
	1790	24	7		1	1										3	12	
	1791	18	8	1			1									3	5	
	1792	9	6			1						1				1		
	1793	16	6					1		1	1					3	4	1
	1794	11	4	2									1			2	2	
	1795	29	8			3		1				1				14	2	
	1796	9	5					1				1				1	1	1
	1797	13	6	1	1			1								1	3	
	1798	15	7		2											4	2	
152	1799	13	4		1					1						4	3	
	1800	17	4	2	2		2					1				5	1	
	1801	14	9			3	2											
	1802	15	5	1	2			2					1	1		1	2	
	1803	13	3			1	1									7	1	
	1804	16	2	1	1					1						7	4	
	1805	20	8	3	2		2						1	1		1	2	
	1806	11	5	2			1				3							
	1807	13	3				2	1	1	3	3	1		1			1	
	1808	20	9	1	2				3	1	1	1	1		1		1	
	1809	14	4	2				1	2		1	2		1		1		
	1810	10	4	1					1	2	1	1						
	1811	12	5				2		2	2		1						
	1812	28	10	9	2	1			4				2					
	1813	8	4			2			1							1		1

Total deaths for each decade.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Total number of deaths in the year.			Under 5 years of age.	5 to 10.	10 to 20.	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	60 to 70.	70 to 80.	80 to 90.	90 to 100.	Over 100.	Children.	Adults.	Died elsewhere; interred in Fitzwilliam
271	1859	25	5	1	1	1	2	2	1		6	4						5
	1860	21	4	1	1	3	2	3	2	5	1	1						5
	1861	28	2		1	4	4	2	4		2	3	5	1				5
	1862	26	8	3	3	2				3	4	3						9
	1863	41	9	9	2	1	2	4	5	3	2	2			1	1		13
	1864	38	12	2	6	6	2	3	3	1	1	1				1		9
	1865	33	4	1	2	2	3	3	5	4	4	4			1			11
	1866	26	9				2	2	2	4	4	3						5
	1867	18	4	1	2	4				1	4	2						3
	1868	15	3		1	1	1		1	1	2	3	3	1				1
192	1869	18	2	1	1	2		1	3	1	3	4						2
	1870	23	3	1	2	1	1	2	5	2	2	2	2					4
	1871	20	4	1			1	3	3	3	1	3	1					12
	1872	17	3			2	2	1		1	2	3	1			1	1	12
	1873	18	8	2		1			1	2		4						7
	1874	14	5	1	1	1		2			2	1	1			2		7
	1875	22	7	1	1			6	2	1	3	1						15
	1876	24	5		3	2	1	1	2	4	3	2				1		7
	1877	23	3	3	1	1	2		1	4		7	1					5
	1878	13	5		1			1	1	1	3	1						7
157	1879	16	2	2	1	2		1	1	1	4	1	1					8
	1880	17	3		1	1	3		3	2	1	3						7
	1881	23	5	1		3	3	2	3	1	2	2					1	13
	1882	29	5		1	3			1	3	6	9	1					12
	1883	17	4		1	2		1	1	2	3	1					2	4
	1884	19	4	2	1	4		1	1	1	1	2	1			1		7
	1885	20	4		2			2		4	4	4						7
	1886	16	2			1	2			3			1			1		6

The table includes a period of 118 years, and the total number of deaths recorded is 2114.

Under 5 years.....	649	50 to 60.....	125
5 to 10.....	111	60 to 70.....	139
10 to 20.....	138	70 to 80.....	182
20 to 30.....	160	80 to 90.....	160
30 to 40.....	116	90 to 100.....	44
40 to 50.....	110	over 100.....	4
Children—age not stated.....			104
Adults—age not stated.....			72
Died elsewhere, but interred in Fitzwilliam....			300

Died in Fitzwilliam and included in the foregoing table, but were interred elsewhere, about 160. Of this number, over 30 were Roman Catholics, who were taken away to be interred in consecrated ground.

PROFESSIONAL MEN WHO HAVE DIED IN FITZWILLIAM :

Clergymen : Benjamin Brigham, June 5th, 1799, æ. 57 ; Darius Fisher, September 2d, 1834, æ. 63 ; Ezekiel L. Bascom, April 2d, 1841, æ. 64 ; James H. Sayward, January 13th, 1844, æ. 35 ; John Sabin, October 14th, 1845, æ. 75 ; John Woods, May 4th, 1861, æ. 76 ; Abraham Jenkins, Jr., August 4th, 1861, æ. 50 ; Luther Townsend, a native of Fitzwilliam, d. at Troy, February 9th, 1862, æ. 48 ; was buried here.

Physicians : Peter Clark Grosvener, December 14th, 1794 ; Amasa Scott, May 16th, 1821, æ. 38 ; Jared Perkins, October 7th, 1824, æ. 31 ; Ebenezer Wright, March 16th, 1829, æ. 67 ; Thomas Richardson, August 8th, 1852, æ. 86 ; James Batcheller, April 14th, 1866, æ. 74 ; Silas Cummings, June 30th, 1882, æ. 78.

Lawyer : Luther Chapman, August 15th, 1856, æ. 77.

LIST OF DEATHS IN FITZWILLIAM OF PERSONS AGED 80 YEARS
AND UPWARD :

1778	Dec. 30.	Mrs. (Mary [?]) Buckman.....	81
1794	Mar. 30.	Mrs. Kendall, widow of.....	89
1802	July 24.	Mrs. Ruhama Pratt, mother of Job (?).....	93
	Sept. 19.	Joseph Hemingway.....	83
1805	Mar. 10.	John Camp	95
	Dec. 17.	Mrs. Elizabeth Davison, mother of Benjamin, Sr. (?).....	85
1807	April 15.	Abraham Rice.....	82
1808	Sept. 27.	Mrs. Sampson, mother of Capt. Benjamin	96
1809	April 12.	Zechariah Davis	95
1812	Feb. 8.	Joseph Nurse.....	89
	Mar. 25.	Sylvanus Hemingway.....	85

1814	Mar. 8.	Robert Ware.....	81
1815	Feb. 11.	Mrs. Lydia Paine.....	84
1816	April 20.	Abigail Deeth, widow of Caleb..	85
1817	Feb. 15.	Capt. Samuel Patch.....	87
1818	July 18.	Henry Rice.....	84
1819	April 27.	Relief Patrick, widow of Samuel (?)	84
	July 22.	Michael Sweetser.....	81
	Nov. 4.	Stephen Harris.....	94
1820	Jan. 16.	Mary Sweetser, widow of Michael	80
	April 15.	Mr. Moody.....	85
	July 6.	Susanna (Wilder) Rice, widow of Abraham.....	90
	Aug. 18.	Richard Gleason.....	82
	Nov. 20.	Susanna Wallace, widow of.....	80
1821	Mar. 14.	Sarah Fisher, mother of Mrs. Francis Fullam.....	94
	Sept. 7.	Benjamin Batchelder.....	86
1826	April 8.	Anna (Miles) Knowlton, widow of Ezekiel.....	85
	Dec. 3.	Abner Stone.....	90
1827	May 5.	Molly Hemingway, widow of Syl- vanus.....	85
1828	Sept. 29.	Elizabeth Stiles, mother of Mrs. Timothy Blodgett.....	88
1829	Jan. 26.	Mary (Angier) Harris, widow of Stephen.....	97
	Mar. 30.	William Locke.....	80
1831	Jan. 16.	Mrs. Susanna Chase.....	81
	Dec. 15.	Rebecca (Barrett) Locke, widow of William.....	87
1833	April 21.	James Gibson.....	82
1834	Jan. 1.	Anna (Stacy) Stone, wife of Samuel.....	82
	Jan. 12.	Dea. John Fassett.....	94
	Feb. 2.	Philip Amidon.....	85
	Aug. 14.	Jonas Woods.....	82
	Nov. 30.	Anna (Smith) Carter, widow of Joseph.....	84

1834	Dec. 16.	Ruth Penniman, wife of Elihu...	84
	Dec. 17.	Ebenezer Saunders.....	81
1835	Nov. 1.	Elihu Penniman.....	84
	Dec. 31.	Allen Grant.....	89
1836	Feb. 20.	Mary (Dodge) Reed, widow of James, Jr.....	90
	Sept. 6.	Moses Drury.....	93
	Oct. 1.	Anna Batchelder, widow of Benjamin.....	100 yrs., 6 m.
1837	Feb. 5.	Lydia [(Burbank) Lyon] Potter, wife of Ebenezer.....	81
	Aug. 25.	Eunice (Shumway) Amidon, widow of Philip.....	90
1838	Mar. 10.	Elizabeth Stone, wife of James...	83
	June 5.	Solomon Spaulding.....	96
	Oct. 8.	Mary (Hunt) Bent, widow of Samuel.....	84
	Nov. 24.	Ruth (Wilder) Waite, widow of Asa.....	88
1839	June 14.	Capt. John Fay.....	83
	July 21.	Charles Bowker.....	81
1840	Feb. 13.	Abigail (Baker) Fay, widow of Jonas and (1) of Ephraim Parker.....	82
	April 1.	Lovina (Brigham) Fay, widow of Capt. John.....	80
	May 11.	Elizabeth Pettes.....	99
	Sept. 18.	Mary Grant, widow of Allen....	80
	Dec. 31.	Betsey Deeth, widow of Parley...	87
1841	Jan. 5.	James Stone.....	87
	May 12.	Matthew Osborn.....	87
	June 12.	Stephen White.....	80
	July 10.	Lois Capron, widow of Jonathan.	81
	Dec. 2.	Phebe (Wetherbee) Platts, widow of Abel.....	101 yrs., 4 m., 24 d.
	Dec. 12.	Samuel Stone, died at Swanzey..	91
1842	July 28.	Hannah Griffin, dau. of Dea. Samuel; died at Troy.....	86
	Dec. 28.	Matthias Felton.....	87

1843	Sept. 6.	Elizabeth (Parks) Fassett, widow of Willard.....	85
	Dec. 25.	Joel Miles, d. at Royalston.....	87
1844	Feb. 11.	Eunice (Hawes) Foster, widow of Alexander	80
	Mar. 4.	Martha (Gibson) Forristall, widow of Jesse	91
	Aug. 18.	Oliver Whitcomb.....	81
	Sept. 6.	Mary Phillips, widow of Nathaniel.....	85
1845	Feb. 13.	Lois (Pierce) White, widow of Daniel.....	84
	April 27.	Ebenezer Potter.....	96
	May 27.	Joseph Stone.....	93
1846	Feb. 10.	Betsey (Nichols), widow of Phillips Sweetser ; (1) of Dr. Ebenezer Wright.....	82
	July 11.	Mary (Wilson) Prescott, wife of Peter.....	84
1847	Jan. 2.	Lieut. Daniel Mellen.....	97
	Feb. 19.	Robinson Perkins.....	80
	April 30.	Artemas Wilson.....	90
	Aug. 4.	Sarah (?) Whitney, widow of John (Jr. (?))	99
1848	Mar. 9.	Hephzibah Johnson, widow of Eliphalet.....	89
	Nov. 23.	John Shirley.....	94
	Dec. 14.	John Damon, died at Rindge....	81
1849	April 10.	Sarah Grover, widow of Antipas.	80
	Aug. 5.	Sarah (Fisher) Fullam, widow of Francis.....	91
1850	Feb. 8.	Mary (Harris) Stone, widow of Joseph	92
	May 15.	Elizabeth (Stiles) Blodgett, of Timothy.....	82
	July 29.	Mary (Taylor) Howe, widow of Nahum.....	83
1851	Jan. 14.	Rebecca Johnson, widow of James	87

1851	Mar. 22.	Cata (Drury) Wilson, widow of Artemas.....	88
	April 2.	Lydia (Richardson) Reed, widow of Phineas.....	80
	Nov. 29.	Mrs. Hannah Spaulding, mother of James.....	81
1852	Jan. 7.	Calvin Smith.....	81
	Feb. 2.	Lydia Knights, widow of William, died at Marlboro.....	84
	April 30.	Phinehas Reed.....	86
	April 30.	Sally (Carter) Marshall, widow of William, (1) of Isaac Kimball..	85
	July 14.	Peter Prescott.....	94
	Aug. 8.	Dr. Thomas Richardson.....	86
1853	June 22.	Eunice (Brigham) Cobleigh, widow of John.....	87
	Oct. 29.	Martha (Stickney) Saunders, widow of Ebenezer.....	90
	Dec. 20.	Molly White, widow of Stephen..	87
1854	Feb. 2.	Lydia (Parks) Townsend, widow of Nathan, Jr.....	87
	Feb. 6.	Orra Ripley, widow of.....	85
	Aug. 22.	Otis Whipple.....	86
1855	June 11.	Polly Felch.....	80
	June 14.	Capt. Nathan Smith.....	91
	Sept. 13.	Zalmon Howe.....	80
	Nov. 29.	Timothy Blodgett.....	89
	Dec. 26.	John Whittemore.....	80
1856	Feb. 14.	Elizabeth (Woodbury) Burbank, widow of John.....	90
	June 15.	Catherine McLeer, widow of....	83
	July 28.	Mary White, wife of Noah.....	88
1857	April 26.	Hannah (Woods) Fassett, widow of Joseph.....	83
	May 13.	Anna (Harris) Byam, widow of Abel.....	90
	May 18.	Mary Gee, widow of	89
	July 5.	Joseph Pratt.....	87

1858	Jan. 30.	Hannah (Frost) Worcester, widow of William.....	98
	Aug. 22.	Roxana (Amidon) Angier, wife of Abel	83
1859	Jan. 13.	Silas Morse	82
	Oct. 3.	Polly Kilbourne, widow of.....	82
	Oct. 13.	(Pratt) Taft, widow of David...	81
	Nov. 21.	Moses Chaplin.....	82
1860	July 23.	Elizabeth Hayden, widow of Ezra	82
1861	Feb. 13.	Lucretia Mellen.....	95
	Feb. 21.	Jedediah Putney, died at Marlboro.....	85
	Feb. 27.	Abel Angier	86
	May 10.	Elizabeth (Goss) Carter, widow of Joseph	83
	Aug. 27.	Isabel (Manning) Stone, wife of Dea. Artemas.....	82
	Oct. 12.	Asa Waite.....	85
	Dec. 16.	Lydia Whipple, widow of Otis ..	88
1862	Mar. 9.	Elijah T. Smith, died at Winchendon	83
	April 8.	Charles F. Cameron.....	84
	April 10.	Dea. Artemas Stone.....	85
	Oct. 27.	William Perry.....	82
1863	June 27.	Pamelia Whipple, widow of Na- hum.....1 m., 4 d.	101 yrs.,
	Aug. 21.	Noah White	86
	Dec. 22.	Samuel Carroll	83
1864	May 1.	Polly (Locke) Whittemore, widow of William S.....	88
	June 16.	Mary (Bent) Pratt, widow of Amos ; died at Rindge.....	84
1865	Jan. 9.	Anna Grant, daughter of Allen..	84
	Mar. 19.	Mary (Damon) Sabin, widow of Rev. John.....	86
	June 7.	Jesse Forristall.....	84
	Oct. 27.	Lucy (Patch) Whitecomb, widow of Oliver.....11 m., 1 d.	101 yrs.,

1865	Nov. 18.	Lovicy (Mellen) Whitcomb, widow of John	83
1866	Feb. 19.	Elizabeth Reed, widow of Benjamin ; died at Jaffrey.....	83
	Feb. 26.	Josiah Wilder.....	80
	April 1.	Betsey Hale, widow of Jacob.....	81
	July 22.	William H. Bent, died at Ashburnham.....	81
	Oct. 25.	Polly Wilder, widow of Josiah..	80
1867	April 10.	Mrs. Pheve Howe.....	87
	Oct. 12.	David Grant.....	82
	Nov. 11.	Martha (Bent) Chaplin, widow of Moses	85
1868	Mar. 13.	Jonathan Gage.....	86
	May 6.	Susanna (Phillips) Morse, widow of Silas.....	82
	Sept. 22.	Annis (Whitney) Carroll, widow of Samuel	85
	Nov. 3.	Azubah Locke, daughter of Joseph	91
1869	May 20.	Polly [(Blanding) Kendall] Wright, widow of Capt. Aaron.	89
	Aug. 1.	Sally (King) Chapman, widow of Luther.	87
	Oct. 7.	Ruth (Carroll) Whitney, wife of David	84
	Nov. 8.	Levi Tower	87
	Nov. 9.	Simeon Merrifield, died at New Salem, Mass.....	86
1870	Feb. 7.	John Cobleigh.....	80
	Mar. 8.	Sally (Dadmun) Kendall, widow of Luke.....	90
	May 16.	Cynthia (Randall) Ellis, widow of Samuel.....	91
	Sept. 18.	Mary (Chaplin) Beard, widow of Artemas.....	88
1871	Jan. 27.	Abel Marshall.....	81
	Mar. 18.	William Fisher Perry.....	95
	April 1.	Philemon Fairbanks.....	89

1871	April 28.	Lovina Leathe, widow of Elisha Drury by previous m.; died at Royalston.....	80
	Aug. 9.	Nancy (Sweetser) Mann, widow of Rev. Cyrus.....	80
1872	April 12.	Emory Taft.....	93
	Aug. 26.	Benoni Peck.....	89
	Nov. 14.	Anstis (Stratton) Tower, widow of Levi.....	87
	Nov. 14.	Jude Damon, died at Keene.....	87
	Dec. 9.	Ruth (Pratt) Bent, widow of Samuel, Jr.; died in Vermont.	90
	Dec. 21.	Hyman Bent.....	84
1873	April 5.	Polly (Davis) Wilson, widow of Artemas, Jr.....	82
	April 26.	Sarah S. Poland, wife of Samuel.	87
	May 4.	Polly (Stone) Osborn, widow of Matthew	85
	May 21.	David Forbush.....	86
1874	Mar. 23.	Nancy (Colburn) Davison, widow of Benjamin; died at Winchendon	81
	April 2.	Samuel Poland, died at Keene...	84
	April 15.	Dorcas (Amidon) Rice, widow of David; died in Jaffrey.....4 m., 5 d.	104 yrs.,
	Oct. 21.	Sally (Locke) Drury, wife of Moses	83.
1875	May 1.	Ebenezer Potter.....	81
1876	April 3.	Mary (McClary) Parker, wife of Amos A.....	81
	April 21.	Capt. Silas Chase, died at Winchendon	81
	Aug. 18.	Benjamin Byam.....	83
1877	Mar. 14.	Sylvanus Holman.....	81
	May 29.	David Thompson.....	89
	Sept. 11.	Sukey (Penniman) Damon, widow of Jude	88
	Sept. 18.	Huldah (Collins) Osborn, widow of Capt. Josiah.....	91

DEATHS OF AGED PERSONS.

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1877	Sept. 18.	Sibel (Fiske) Damon, widow of Luther ; died at Dana, Mass...	81
	Oct. 2.	Lucy Whitcomb, daughter of Oliver.....	87
	Nov. 7.	Samuel Sawyer Willard.....	84
	Nov. 18.	Catherine (Bigelow) Prescott, widow of Peter, Jr.....	88
	Nov. 29.	Sarah (Hayden) Bailey, widow of Edward ; (1) of Jared Perkins.	82
1878	Dec. 5.	Betsey (Grant) Handy, wife of Paul.....	81
1879	Jan. 21.	Eliza (Fay) Stone, widow of Moses.....	90
	June 5.	Hephzibah (Stone) Forbush, widow of David ; died at Winchendon	87
	Aug. 28.	Lucy (Fassett) Byam, wife of Benjamin.....	86
	Oct. 8.	Ezra Alexander, died at Keene..	85
1880	Feb. 17.	Dea. Joseph Harris, died at Baldwinville.....	83
	Mar. 22.	Asaph Whitcomb.....	85
	May 20.	John Jarvis Allen.....	90
	Sept. 16.	Hannah (Woodward) Putney, widow of Jedediah ; (1) of Martin Rockwood ; died at Troy.....	85
	Oct. 25.	Anna (Bowker) Collins, widow of Ezekiel.....	90
	Dec. 6.	David Whitney.....	93
1881	Mar. 13.	Caroline Smith, daughter of Daniel.....	80
	May 20.	Ruth (Collins) Kuhn, wife of William ; (1) of Nathan Drury.	87
1882	Jan. 4.	Tamar (Grant) Hayden, wife of Samuel.....	86
	Jan. 17.	Samuel Hayden.....	88
	Jan. 29.	Hannah Lovering, widow of Henry.....	89

1882	Feb. 19.	Clarissa (Holden) Fay, widow of Stephen	86
	Mar. 16.	Lucy (Gates) Thompson, widow of David.....	89
	Mar. 17.	Sylvia (Green) Taft, wife of Lewis	80
	April 21.	Abel Dunton.....	89
	May.	Alexander Matheson.....	85
	July 17.	Daniel Spaulding.....	93
	Nov. 17.	Lucy Carpenter.....	86
1883	Nov. 13.	Levinah J. (Allen) Bent, widow of William H.....	86
1884	Jan. 19.	Francis Stone	81
	April 16.	Moses Drury.....	95
	April 28.	Josiah Moore.....	88
	Oct. 6.	Oren Grant, died in Royalston...	89
1885	Feb. 1.	Harriet B. (Tylor) Dyar, widow of Joseph.....	81
	April 5.	Paul Handy.....	84
	April 30.	Nancy (Robbins) Bent, w. of Elisha	84
	June 12.	Leonard Pierce.....	83
1886	Mar. 1.	Phineas Parks.....	90

The foregoing list contains 233 names. Of this number, 25 persons died elsewhere, but were brought here for interment, and are inserted in the list as properly belonging here. Of the 208 who died in town, 87 were between 80 and 85 years of age; 73 were between 85 and 90; 32 were between 90 and 95; 12 were between 95 and 100, and 4 were over 100 years of age.

LIST OF PERSONS OVER 80 YEARS OF AGE RESIDING IN FITZ-
WILLIAM JAN. 1, 1887.

Jonathan Sabin Adams . Sept. 22, 1802. Plainfield, Conn.
Joseph Blodgett..... Oct. 28, 1796. Northfield, Mass.
Simon Bosworth..... Mar. 22, 1803. Winchendon.
Luke Bowker..... Oct. 28, 1800. Fitzwilliam.

Betsey (Knight) Brewer,		
wid. of Asa.....	May 4, 1804.	Sudbury, Mass.
Milton Chaplin.....	April 7, 1805.	Fitzwilliam.
Selina (Parker) Damon,		
wid. of John.....	July 5, 1799.	"
Tamar (Thompson) Da-		
vis, wid. of Chancy..	Nov. 4, 1804.	Holden, Mass.
George W. Drury	Jan. 11, 1800.	Framingham, Mass.
Samuel S. Dudley	June 26, 1806.	Sudbury, Mass.
Ruth (Phillips) Dunton,		
wid. of Abel.....	Aug. 21, 1799.	Athol, Mass.
Benjamin M. Fiske	July 18, 1803.	Fitzwilliam.
Louisa (Storow) Forris-		
tall, wid. of Jesse....	April 7, 1804.	Boston, Mass.
Eunice (Parks) Holman,		
wid. of Seth.....	Oct. 19, 1801.	Royalston.
Lucy (Fullam) Holman,		
wid. of Sylvanus	June 27, 1797.	Fitzwilliam.
Jane S. (Richardson)		
Kimball, wid. of John	Nov. 21, 1802.	Royalston.
William Kuhn.....	1800.	Montague, Mass.
Harriet (Stone) Miles,		
wid. of John.....	June 6, 1801.	Sullivan, N. H.
Mary R. (Felch) Milne,		
wid. of John.....	Aug. 29, 1805.	Boston, Mass.
Charlotte (Pratt) Petts,		
wid. of Abel.....	Jan. 13, 1805.	Fitzwilliam.
Polly (Woods) Potter,		
wid. of Ebenezer	Aug. 30, 1803.	"
Fanny W. Saunders, dau.		
of Ebenezer.....	Sept. 15, 1805.	"
Isaac W. Stone.....	Dec. 2, 1806.	"
Daniel Smith.....	Oct. 30, 1804.	"
Lewis Taft.....	Mar. 4, 1803.	Uxbridge, Mass.
Tabitha (Wright) Whee-		
ler, wid. of Henry H.	Oct. 3, 1805.	Fitzwilliam.
Rebecca Whitcomb, dau.		
of Oliver	Sept. 24, 1801.	"

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENT.

	AGE.	
1769, April 30.	1	Thaddeus Stone, s. of Jason....scalded.
1771, May 3.		Benjamin Bigelow, drowned at Winchester.
1778, June 12.		Henry Poor.....fall from horse.
1779, Mar. 16.		Susan Bennett, w. of Benjamin, fall from horse in Royalston.
June 3.	50	John Bruce.....from fall at saw-mill.
1782, July 26.	28	Thomas Platts, crushed between cart and tree.
1790, June 19.		Joseph Johnson, instantly, by falling tree.
Dec. 31.		Capt. Stephen Richardson .....frozen.
1793, Mar. 25.	3	Sylvester Bowker, s. of Charles, drowned.
1795, Mar. 22.	20	Abel Ware, s. of Robert, fall in saw-mill.
Sept. 24.	13	Rufus Pratt, s. of Job, timber fell on him at a raising.
1800, April 8.	1	Mary Perry, d. of Simeon.....scalded.
1802, Mar. 18.	3	Harding Morse, s. of Daniel, by fall of wood-pile.
1804, Sept. 9.	5	Joseph Reed, s. of Phineas....drowned.
1805, Sept. 21.	15	Joel Dunton .....blown up in a well.
1809, May 10.	7	Caleb Winch, s. of Joseph, burned in his grandfather's (?) house.
1811, Mar. 13.	50	William Bruce, from boards falling on him.
1812, Sept. 4.	28	Abner Stone, Jr., fell from frame at a raising.
1814, Jan. 21.	5	Child of Josiah Wilson, from wound in head.
1818, Oct. 16.	60	Thomas Stratton, instantly, by falling tree.
1821, Aug. 13.	2	William Perkins, s. of Dr. Jared, scalded.
1824, Oct. 12.	68	Jesse Forristall.....fall from wagon.
1825, Oct.	$\frac{1}{2}$	Chandler May, s. of Theophilus, overturning of a chaise.

		AGE.	
1832, June 6.	18	Calvin Chase,	accidental discharge of his gun.
1833, April 1.	22	Benjamin Bowker,	hurt in mill, sawing hoe-handles.
Sept. 30.	3	Henry Stone, s. of Francis,	drowned in tan-vat.
1834, July 13.	15	Elizabeth Goodspeed,	thrown from wagon.
1837, July 9.	16	James Follett.	drowned at Bowkerville.
1838, Aug. 18.	30	Daniel T. Hayden,	accidental discharge of his rifle.
1839, Oct. 30.	24	Hyman C. Pratt,	accidental discharge of his gun.
Nov. 28.	2	Child of Timothy S. Reed.	.....scalded.
1840, Sept. 10.	50	Stillman Collins.	drowned in Sip pond.
Nov. 12.	19	Sarah E. May,	burned by clothes taking fire.
1842, Jan. 13.	4	Levi A. Taft, s. of Lewis,	burned by clothes taking fire.
Sept. 1.	20	Daphne Allen, d. of Jubal E.,	burned by clothes taking fire.
1845, June 14.	18	Daniel C. S. Parker, s. of Amos A.,	drowned at Troy.
Dec. 15.	50	Michael Higgins,	on RR. by a falling bank.
1847, May 18.	50	Peter Shossiny.	.....on RR. by a stone.
1848, Feb. 22.		Dennis Daly.	.....run over by the cars.
1853, Dec. 30.	30	Nathaniel Allen,	on RR. at Collins' bridge.
1854, Mar. 28.	52	Patrick McManus.	.....drowned at Troy.
1861, Feb. 1.	40	Mrs. Damon, w. of Alonzo, of Hubbards-	ton, Mass.,
			on RR. at Templeton crossing.
Feb. 1.	3	George Damon, s. of Alonzo, of Hub-	bardston, Mass.
			on RR. at Templeton crossing.
1864, Mar. 8.	1	Stillman A. Dunton, s. of George O.,	scalded.

	AGE.	
1865, Oct. 26.	57	Paul Martin, from injury by falling tree.
1867, Aug.	4	Johnny Marvin.....drowned.
1868, July 12.	18	George A. Worcester, drowned at Richmond.
1870, Aug. 24.	51	Dr. Horace B. Day, of Utica, N. Y., by the cars at depot.
Aug. 25.	22	Charles Scott...fell under cars at depot.
1872, Nov. 6.	52	Abijah Ellis.....murdered at Boston.
Dec. 10.	23	Ralph Trumbull....on RR., brakeman.
Dec. 23.		Prentiss, on RR. at Collins' bridge. Ellis, s. of Timothy, in mill in Rindge.
1877, Sept. 3.	8	Carrie Lizzie Beebe, adopted dau. of An- son G.....drowned.
Nov. 7.	84	Samuel S. Willard..by cars at State line.
1879, Feb. 8.	22	Nathan Elwin Stone, s. of Nathan, by cars, at Worcester.
Oct. 22.	24	Charles W. Perry, s. of Charles, from kick of a horse.
1880, Feb. 12.	17	Artemas S. Campbell, s. of Dugald, killed in the mill.
1881, Feb. 5.		J. L. Davis, RR. engineer (?) killed on the railroad.

The list includes a few who were killed elsewhere, but who may be considered as belonging to Fitzwilliam, and the most of whom were brought here for burial.

DEATHS BY SUICIDE.

1793, July 10.	Azariah Wilson.....	By hanging.
1800, July 27.	Hannah Richardson...Age, 19.	Drowning.
1810, Dec. 1.	Ephraim Parker.....	" 54. Hanging.
1817, Aug. 23.	Jacob Townsend.....	" 50. "
1824, Oct. 11.	Samuel Davis.....	" 66. "
1828, July 28.	David Rice.....	" 60. "
1829, Feb. 15.	David Graves.....	" 35. Cutting.
1829, Mar. 6.	Luther Holman.....	" 25. Poison, at Keene.
1830, Aug. 3.	Lydia Moody.....	" 47. Hanging.

1850, May 24.	Parkman Kendall....	Age, 31.	Hanging.
1861, Jan. 20.	Elisha Drury.....	" 39.	Cutting.
1863, Aug. 16.	Timothy N. Carroll..	" 42.	"
1864, Sept. 13.	Daniel G. Carter.....	" 49.	Hanging.
1866, May 1.	Mrs. William Flagg..	" 40.	"
1872, June 7.	Daniel Harris.....	" 25.	Poison, at Winchendon.
1877, April 7.	Reuben B. Pratt.....	" 68.	Hanging.
1877, Nov. 19.	Reuben Pratt.....	" 47.	Poison, at Winchendon.

Joseph Lee Hayward, son of Benjamin Hayward, was born in Fitzwilliam, August 12th, 1837. At the age of twenty-three he went West, and for two years found employment in New Baltimore, Mich., and Moline, Ill. In August, 1862, he enlisted as a soldier in the One Hundred and Twenty-seventh Regiment Illinois Volunteers, but his health giving way he was detailed to serve as a druggist in a dispensary at Nashville, Tenn., and continued in this service till the close of the war. In 1866 he was in Faribault, Minn., and later in Minneapolis, but in 1867 became a resident of Northfield, Minn., and engaged in business as a book-keeper. In this capacity he was employed in 1872 by the First National Bank of Northfield. In September of that year, the cashier being absent, Mr. Hayward was in charge as acting cashier, the teller, Mr. Bunker, and assistant book-keeper being also on duty. On the 7th of that month eight mounted bank robbers, understood to be the so-called Jesse James band, entered the place, and while three of the number attacked the bank the other five made the utmost possible commotion upon the outside, to intimidate the people that might come to the rescue. But the citizens rallied so quickly and in such numbers that the attempted robbery was frustrated, and two of the robbers were killed, but as the last one was leaving the bank he turned and fired a fatal shot at Mr. Hayward.

Elijah Phillips, son of Elijah Phillips, was born in Fitzwilliam, and in 1830, when he was a young man, went West and settled in Illinois. He made his journey partly on foot and partly by the Erie Canal, and by steamboat on Lake Erie, and joining his old friends, James G. Forristall and Sylvester Brigham, they built a log cabin for themselves in what is now the town of Dover. Nearly two years later Mr. Phillips, with

seven others, left Fort Hennepin to look after their cattle, and rain coming on they remained overnight in the hut of one John L. Ament, who was not on friendly terms with the neighboring Indians. In some way Mr. Phillips had become somewhat involved in the quarrel. The men barricaded the hut and each slept with his loaded gun by his side. The Indians who were watching the cabin during the night were prevented by the rain from burning it, but early in the morning as Mr. Phillips started for his own cabin, which was not far distant, a number of guns were fired at him and he fell dead, two bullets having entered his body.

PAUPERISM.

The custom which prevailed in this region, a century ago, of warning nearly every new family out of town as soon as possible after its arrival, doubtless prevented pauperism in this place to some extent, still, Fitzwilliam, like all other towns, had its poor to care for at an early date. In 1776 the town paid Levi Brigham ten shillings for supporting John Camp and family, which appears to have been the first appropriation for this purpose. Previously the poor had been aided by private charity.

In 1779 an appropriation of fifty pounds was made "for the use of the poor." At that date the currency in which the taxes were paid had greatly depreciated. In 1785 the sickness of the wife of Abraham Rice, Jr., called for appropriations amounting to about fifteen pounds ten shillings. In 1787 the town voted "to put out Mr. Butler's family to such persons as should take the care of them at the lowest," and at the vendue that followed they were taken at from six to eight pounds each for one year. In 1792 entries like the following appear in the Records: "Lieut. Daniel Mellen bought old Mr. Camp, for one year, he is to have two pounds and seven shillings per weeke and the said Mellen is to keep his cloathing as good as when he receives him."

This method of caring for the poor was common in the country towns of New England for many years, and had its advantages as well as disadvantages.

It should be borne in mind that in the early days the pauper went into the family as one of its members, and was expected to do such work as he or she was able, the compensation received from the town depending largely upon the pauper's ability to labor. It is believed that such persons were seldom overworked or misused in Fitzwilliam.

In 1794 the town made choice of Benjamin Davidson, John Fassett, and John Locke as Overseers of the Poor, but in general the duties of such officers have here devolved upon the selectmen.

The expense of supporting the poor of a town like this must always be considerable, but an examination of the reports of the selectmen will show that, for the last twenty years, the tax upon the people of Fitzwilliam for the support of paupers has not been increasing, but rather diminishing.

CONNECTION WITH THE WORLD.

The laying out, making and repairing of roads presented a problem to the proprietors and first settlers of Fitzwilliam that demanded good judgment, not a little patience, and large appropriations. It is probable that all the earliest settlers entered the township by the old military road, and settled on it or as near it as was convenient. As the settlement increased roads were laid out by the proprietors from neighborhood to neighborhood, but in very many cases as the log hut gave place to the framed house, the location of the highways was changed as convenience or preference seemed to require.

Referring to matters of this nature, Rev. John Sabin, in his historical lecture of February, 1842, said : " It has rarely been with a people that they calculate just as they would were it to begin again ;" and to illustrate this truth he added that in early times " roads were laid to accommodate individuals and so might not be permanent. Vast proportions of former roads have been discontinued and much of the labor done on them lost to later time."

The evil complained of by this sensible man is probably, to some extent, inseparable from the conditions of a new settlement, but certainly it was great in Fitzwilliam, for the roads

constructed in this township, and discontinued during the first fifty years after it was purchased by Sampson Stoddard and others, seem to have extended over nearly every part of it, and in all directions, with very little regard to the future wants of the incoming population. From the very nature of the country and soil roads have always been an expensive necessity in Fitzwilliam.

As the population increased in the adjoining towns, county roads were constructed, and at a little later period as the exigencies of public travel seemed to require better accommodations than the towns were willing to furnish, various turnpike companies were incorporated that built roads leading into or through Fitzwilliam. One by one all of these were given up many years ago, and the care of the roads thus made was assumed by the town.

The first settler, Benjamin Bigelow, found in 1762 comparatively easy access to his new home by the old military road, that for three or four years at least afforded the only connection with the outside world.

At proprietors' meetings held April 19th, 1765, and October 11th, 1768, committees were chosen to lay out roads, and the committees undoubtedly attended to the duties of their appointment, though there are no records thereof. But at a meeting held June 19th, 1771, eleven roads, aggregating about thirty-five miles in length, were accepted, and descriptions of the same entered in the records of the meeting. As nearly all of these roads are described "as now trod," "as now marked and travelled," or "as already laid out," it is plain that they were then in use, and the acceptance was only a formality whereby they became legally public highways. The first and longest of the roads is thus described :

Beginen at the Province Line by Royalston Lag where it is now Trod Leeding to Swanzey up by where mr David Deneson now Livs and so on where it is now Traveled to the north east Cornor of Lott No. 16 in 8 Rang then north on the Line between Lott No. 17 in 8 Rang and Lott No. 17 in 7 Rang to the Line of Lott No 18 in 8 Rang then to Continue where it is now Traveled to the Line of monadnock No. 5.

Royalston Leg, the north part of Winchendon as now constituted, but then belonging to Royalston.

David Deneson (Dennison ?) lived on Lot 9 in Range 1, where Henry T. Hall now lives. From Fitzwilliam village to the State line this road substantially followed the route of the present east road to Winchendon. In the other direction it took a northwesterly course and struck the line between Monadnock No. 4 and Monadnock No. 5, about a mile west of the saw and grist-mills of Thomas Tolman, now Troy village. A few years later a branch road was made, leaving the original road about three-quarters of a mile northwest of where Bowkerville is now located, and proceeding nearly due north to the Tolman mills. This branch, and the remainder of the original road southerly, soon became the main thoroughfare from Keene and beyond to Boston, and for thirty years it is repeatedly referred to in the records as "The Great Road." Soon after 1787 this road was straightened in many places, and made wider throughout its entire length, but since then no material change has been made in its location, except that which took it away from the Mellen place, last occupied by Gilbert C. Bemis. Some additional reference is made to this road in Chapter VIII.

Tradition asserts that the first line of stages in this town was established by Simon Crosby, to run to and from Worcester, Mass., and connecting there with a line to and from Boston, but as he was taxed for three horses only his business could not have been large. About 1809 Simon Piper (said to have been engaged in the same business) was taxed for three or four horses only. So far as can be known the stage horses taxed in 1826 numbered three; in 1827, eight; in 1828, twelve, and from that date till 1839 the average was from fourteen to eighteen. Early in this century there was a line of stages from Boston through Fitzwilliam, to Keene and beyond, and some time later there were lines running to or through the town from Worcester, Lowell, and Brattleborough, Vt., and sometimes a second and competing line to and from Boston.

The meeting of so many different stage-lines here made this town in those times a place of considerable importance, and few towns of its size had direct communication with the outside world in so many directions.

In his lecture of 1842, Rev. Mr. Sabin said: "A little esti-

mate has been made this winter past, how much is carried on the road between this and Boston, and been reckoned at two hundred and fifty tons, both ways—say fifty tons carried from this and brought here two hundred tons. What carried from us consists in small part of the produce of the soil, but nearly all of palm-leaf hats, tubs, some chairs, etc. These do not include common lumber from the saw-mills nor the almost untold loads that go by the general name of wooden-ware."

As Mr. Sabin was a very careful and conservative man, this estimate was probably under rather than above the actual amount of transportation over this thoroughfare.

CHESHIRE RAILROAD.

This road was opened through this town in May, 1848, and, in consequence, there has been an enormous increase in the passenger and freight traffic of the place. The number of passengers leaving Fitzwilliam annually by this road is more than six thousand, while each year nearly five thousand enter it on tickets sold in other places. The road brings into the town about two thousand tons of freight annually, and carries away each year more than ten thousand tons.

The elevation of the road at the highest point in Fitzwilliam (which is understood to be the highest over which it passes) is eleven hundred and fifty-one feet. Its length in the town is about nine miles, but the distance in a straight line between the points of its entering and leaving our territory is about seven and a half miles.

George W. Parker was the Fitzwilliam station agent at the opening of the road, but for very many years this office has been filled by Mr. Elbridge Cummings.

The location of this important railroad through nearly the centre of the town, and in close proximity to the most extensive quarries of granite, makes it of inestimable value to the people of Fitzwilliam.

MERCHANTS AND TRADERS.

An ancient tradition, which is considered reliable, states that opposite the inn of General James Reed, on the old military

road, stood a small building about fifteen feet square in which the first goods were offered for sale in Monadnock No. 4. These consisted of rum, molasses, salt, and a few other common groceries, with the addition of a few needles, pins, and other necessary articles that could not be supplied by home manufacture.

Who opened and stocked the first store in what is now Fitzwilliam village, it seems impossible to determine with any degree of certainty. The earliest town tax-list that has been preserved is for the year 1793. In this list Simon Crosby is taxed on fifty pounds stock in trade, Joseph Fox on two hundred pounds, Jonas Robeson on one hundred and seventy-five pounds, and Phineas Reed on one hundred and thirty pounds. The tax of Mr. Reed was on his tannery, but all the other persons named are understood to have been traders. Robeson was in business at the north village, now Troy, while Crosby and Fox were at the south village, now Fitzwilliam village. The larger tax paid by Mr. Fox seems to show that he kept the larger stock of goods, and may justify the inference that his was the older store, though tradition asserts that the first store here was kept by Mr. Crosby.

Dr. Cummings states, apparently on the authority of Mrs. Dorcas (Amadon) Rice, that Mr. Crosby commenced business on the Townsend place, and removed to where the Everett House stood, and another account locates him at a later date on the northeast corner of the Common where the post-office is at the present time. Mr. Crosby continued in business till 1798, and removed to Vermont a year or two later. The Townsend House was situated near the place where Edward A. Nutting now lives, and the brick house at the north end of the Common occupies the site of the Everett House.

Joseph Fox was succeeded by Jonathan Fox—perhaps a younger brother—and Thomas Goldsmith under the firm name of Goldsmith & Fox. They were taxed four years, 1794-97, when Mr. Fox removed to Jaffrey and Mr. Goldsmith took the entire business, which he continued till about 1806. Mr. Goldsmith's store was located on the site now occupied by the Cheshire Hotel, and it is supposed that Goldsmith & Fox and Joseph Fox were located at the same place.

Jonas Warren was taxed on a potash manufactory in 1793 and on stock in trade two hundred pounds in 1794, and on three hundred and thirty-four dollars in 1795. Daniel Gould, Jr., was taxed on three hundred dollars stock in trade in 1796. Ezra Saunders was in trade from 1798 to 1803 at the Townsend place before referred to, and perhaps Warren and Gould were located at the same place, following Crosby and preceding Saunders.

Elisha Brigham, the youngest son of Rev. Benjamin Brigham, succeeded Mr. Crosby at his last place of business, and continued in trade about two years, his capital being furnished by his brother-in-law, General Humphrey, of Athol.

Jonas Robinson or Robeson commenced business in Marlborough about 1791, occupying for over a year a part of the house of Reuben Ward in the south part of the town. He then bought a small piece of land of Joshua Harrington near said Harrington's grist-mill, in the north part of Fitzwilliam, on which he built a store. This was about half a mile westerly from his former location and is the site now occupied by the store of Charles W. Whitney. About 1805 Robeson and his brother-in-law, Reuben Ward, Jr., opened a store in the Carter House at the south village. This is the same place previously referred to as the Everett House. A year or two later he built the three-story building now known as the Fitzwilliam Hotel, into which he moved when completed. The store business was taxed to Ward and Robeson & Ward in 1805 and 1806, but after Robeson's removal he assumed the entire business, and Ward soon returned to Marlborough, his native place, where he died in 1808. A little later Mr. Robeson built a two-story extension on the west side of his house to which he removed his store, and where he continued in trade till 1816, when he retired from business. When Mr. Robeson moved to the south village, the business in the north or border village (which became Troy village in 1815), was left in charge of Daniel W. Farrar, first as clerk, then as partner, and in 1813 he bought out Mr. Robeson's share in the business. At or about this time Curtis Coolidge became a partner with Mr. Farrar, the partnership continuing about three years, when Mr.



John M. Parker

Farrar took the entire business, which he conducted till about 1837, when he was succeeded by his son, David W. Farrar, and John Whittemore, Jr., from Fitzwilliam, under the firm name of Whittemore & Farrar. About 1842 Mr. Whittemore returned to Fitzwilliam, Mr. Farrar (David W.) continuing the business alone.

When Farrar & Coolidge dissolved partnership in Troy, Mr. Coolidge came to Fitzwilliam, and, forming a partnership with Luke B. Richardson, succeeded to the business at the Robeson store. As near as can be ascertained from the tax-lists and other sources, the succession of occupants at this store seems to have been as follows :

Coolidge & Richardson, in 1817-20 ; L. B. Richardson, 1821 ; Richardson & Robeson (Jonas Robeson, Jr.), 1822 ; Coolidge & Robeson, 1823-24 ; Coolidge alone, 1825-34 ; Coolidge & Potter (John Potter), 1835-36 ; Hayden & Potter (Daniel T. Hayden), 1837 ; D. T. Hayden & Co. (Joel Hayden, Jr.), 1838 ; Jesse Stone, draper and tailor, 1842-44 ; Joel Hayden, Jr., general store, 1845-46 ; Charles Sabin, apothecary and drug-store, 1847-48 ; Protective Union Division, No. 317, general store, 1852-57 ; A. A. Parker & Co. (Asa S. Kendall), 1857-65 ; A. A. Parker alone, 1865 ; John M. Parker & Co. (P. S. & S. Batcheller), 1865-87 ; D. W. Firmin & Co. (P. S. & S. Batcheller), 1887.

About 1859 Messrs. Parker & Co. erected a new store building, to which they removed, and in which the business still remains. The premises vacated were finished off as an addition to the hotel.

Drs. Benjamin Bemis and Amasa Scott built the store opposite the town meeting-house, now Town Hall, on land of Dr. Bemis, probably in 1809. The store was taxed with the land to Dr. Bemis and the stock to Dr. Scott, till Dr. Bemis left town in 1812 or 1813, after which both store and stock were taxed to Dr. Scott. He was taxed on stock six years, 1811-16, but the business may have been commenced somewhat earlier, as Bemis & Scott were licensed to sell spirituous liquors in 1809, and B. Bemis & Co. in 1808.

Quite early in the century John Whittemore, Sr., com-

menced trade in a small way in his dwelling-house, situated on the road to Royalston about a third of a mile from the village, being the premises now owned by J. C. Baldwin.

The exact date when he commenced business is not known, but he was licensed to sell spirituous liquors as early as 1804, though he was not taxed on stock in trade till 1808. In 1820 he took his son Dexter as partner, with the firm name of J. Whittemore & Son. In 1821 Dexter bought the Scott & Bemis store and the business was removed to the village, where it was conducted under different styles as follows: John Whittemore & Son, 1821-25; D. Whittemore alone, 1826-27; D. & D. Whittemore (Danvers), 1828; Dexter Whittemore alone again, 1829-50; D. Whittemore & Son or Sons (Thomas W. and Charles), 1851-56; Joel Whittemore, 1858-68. Since the last-named date the store has been unoccupied.

It may be added that Daniel W. Farrar, of Troy, to whom reference has been made in this chapter, and Dexter Whittemore, of Fitzwilliam, were the first traders in this vicinity to abandon the sale of ardent spirits.

James Stone, Jr., was in trade long enough to obtain the title of "marchant Stone," but not long enough to be taxed at any time on stock in trade. He lived in the "market house," the estate now owned by Wright Whitcomb. The early traders were accustomed to exchange goods very largely for farmers' produce, and it is related of Mr. Stone that on account of lack of capital he was not able in all cases to settle for produce when he received it, in which case he would promise to deliver the goods on his return from Boston. He usually went to the city with a single horse, and his customers were so anxious for their pay that they were generally at his store when the goods arrived, though these were not always in sufficient quantities to meet all the demands. Mr. Stone was licensed to sell spirituous liquors from 1812-18. His sales of these goods must have been of considerable amount, as in 1816 and 1817 (the only years for which returns are at hand) he paid the same United States revenue taxes as were paid by the other dealers in town.

In 1822 or 1823 Luke B. Richardson, having withdrawn from



Joel Whittemore

the Robeson store, erected a new building and commenced business on the Crosby site. From this time the successive occupants at this place have been as follows : Luke B. Richardson, 1823-26 ; Spaulding & Perkins (Daniel Spaulding, John Perkins), 1827-32 ; D. Spaulding alone, 1833 ; Spaulding & Noble (Gideon C. Noble), 1834-35 ; D. Spaulding alone again, 1836-40 ; Wales & Morse (Jacob Wales, Royal T. Morse), 1841-42 ; Whittemore & Damon (John Whittemore, Jr., Luke R. Damon), 1843-45 ; John Whittemore, Jr., alone and with his son-in-law, William Pratt, and son George A. Whittemore, 1846-73 ; Whittemore & Co. (George A.), 1874-78, Harry J. Pratt & Co., 1879-81.

When Dr. G. C. Noble dissolved partnership with Daniel Spaulding, he opened a drug-store in a part of the shop of his father-in-law, Robinson Perkins. He continued in business from 1836-42, when he was succeeded by Jared D. Perkins, 1843-49, and he in turn was followed by Phillip S. Batcheller, who is in business on this site at the present time. With the exception of a few years his brother Stephen has been with him, the firm name being P. S. & S. Batcheller. The building they occupy has passed through more changes by way of alterations and enlargements than any other place in the village.

About 1833 Milton Chaplin opened a store in District No. 1 in a building standing between the houses of Hyman Bent and Moses Chaplin, where he traded about seven years. In 1839, having purchased the house in the village where he now lives, he built a store near it, where he did business till 1847, when he purchased the place now owned and occupied by Amos J. Blake, Esq. Here he did business till 1851, the last three years with Anson Streeter as partner, under the name of Chaplin & Streeter. Mr. Chaplin then went into business in Boston, and later removed to Adrian, Mich.

The building last referred to was erected by Levi Haskell, and the lower story having been fitted for a store had been previously occupied by Joseph A. Wilson, 1838-42, and J. A. Wilson & Co. (John G. Wilson), 1843-47.

About 1845 Luke R. Damon, having dissolved partnership with John Whittemore, Jr., commenced business in the three-

story building at the head of the Common. The business was continued by L. R. Damon, 1846-47; Howe & Damon (Nelson Howe), 1848-49; Damon & Farrar (James Farrar), 1850-52; Samuel Smith & Co. (Anson B. Smith), 1853. Damon & Farrar removed to Adrian, Mich., and Smith & Co. to Winchendon.

A store was opened in Howeville in 1853 by N. & J. Howe, who continued in trade till they closed their manufacturing business in 1867.

In 1868 Daniel R. Spaulding, who had been in trade several years in Richmond, formed a partnership with Calvin B. Perry (Spaulding & Perry). They bought the storehouse at the depot village built by N. & J. Howe & Co., and commenced business therein. In 1874 the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Perry taking the business, which he still continues.

At the State line a store has been kept by John N. Richardson, 1855-73; Martin L. Bartlett, 1874-78, and Joel L. Gilson, 1879 to the present time.

Frank B. Frye has had a store at the depot village from 1876 to the present time.

Abner Gage had a store for several years at the village, and Melvin Wilson was in trade for some time at the depot.

INNS AND HOTELS.

The disproportion between the number of these and the population of the township for a number of years after its settlement and incorporation appears quite remarkable, for before the close of the last century there must have been as many as six inns open at the same time in Fitzwilliam, and how many more it is impossible to determine, as no licenses for keeping them were recorded before 1793.

The first public-house that was opened in Monadnock No. 4 was kept by General James Reed, in the first framed house erected in the place. This house stood on the old military road not far from the late residence of Mr. Gilbert C. Bemis. At this inn the proprietors of the township held their meetings for a number of years, and there, or in the shop of Mr. Johnson nearly across the road, the first pastor, Rev. Benja-



CALVIN BRIGHAM PERRY

min Brigham was ordained. Later, this inn was kept by Colonel Sylvanus Reed, son of General Reed, till about 1795.

John Mellen kept an inn for a number of years in the house built for him by his father, Daniel Mellen, which stood upon the spot where Mr. Sylvester Drury now lives. This house of Mr. Mellen was kept as an inn late in the last century by Benoni Shurtliff.

Thomas Goldsmith and Jonathan Fox were licensed to keep a tavern in 1793, and this partnership continued for three or four years, when Goldsmith alone kept the inn till 1808. Timothy Johnson succeeded Mr. Goldsmith in the tavern, and his successor in the same business was Dr. Thomas Richardson. Matthias Felton was licensed as an innkeeper in 1795. His tavern, which he kept about fifteen years, was on the spot where George W. Simonds resided, but Mr. Felton's house was burned forty or forty-five years ago.

Colonel Levi Brigham kept a tavern on what is called Brigham Hill, in District No. 3. In the east part of the town, at the place where Henry T. Hall now lives, Abner Stone kept a tavern for many years, while about a mile and a quarter south, on the same road, was the tavern of Abijah Warner. Both of these men were in this business before 1793. On the same road, still farther south, and a short distance beyond the State line, was another tavern, kept by one Kidder. These three men were popularly known as Honest Stone, Cheating Warner, and Lying Kidder.

All of the storekeepers in the town for a long course of years were licensed to sell spirituous liquors as well as the innkeepers. In addition to these quite a number of persons were licensed for one or two years, near the close of the last and early in the present century, who do not appear to have been either traders or innkeepers.

At a later date, perhaps thirty-five or forty years ago, there were four hotels in Fitzwilliam, viz., the Spaulding Tavern, in the southeast part of the town, Bowker's, in the north part (which was kept as a public-house for a short time only), and two in the village. The inn of Messrs. Goldsmith, Johnson, & Richardson stood where the Cheshire Hotel now stands,

and since the house was rebuilt it has been kept as a public-house by Pratt & Perry for a short time, then by David Perry alone for about twenty years, and later and at present by O. K. Wheelock. The Fitzwilliam Hotel has been kept by John Foster, John Reed, Abner Gage, J. L. Perry, and others whose names cannot be given.

The list of innkeepers is very incomplete.

FREE MASONS.

Charity Lodge No. 18 F. and A. M. was chartered July 23d, 1806, and at the institution of the lodge the following officers were installed :

Joshua Harrington, Worshipful Master.

Joseph Winch, Senior Warden.

David (Daniel, probably) Farrar, Junior Warden.

Benjamin Bemis, Jr., Treasurer.

Joseph Carter, Secretary.

Benoni Shurtleff, Senior Deacon.

Edward Perkins, Junior Deacon.

Alexander Foster, Steward.

Josiah Goldsmith, Tyler.

Benjamin Bemis, Rep. to Grand Lodge.

Joseph Carter, Proxy.

SUCCEEDING MASTERS OF THE LODGE.

Benjamin Bemis, Jr., 1807 ; Joshua Harrington, 1808.

Joseph Carter, 1809 ; Robinson Perkins, 1810-11.

Joshua Harrington, 1812-13 ; Joseph Carter, 1814.

Abel Wilder, 1815 ; Edward Bayley, 1826-27.

Silas Jillson, 1829-39 inclusive ; Edward Bayley, 1840-42.

John J. Allen, 1843-45 ; Edward Bayley, 1846-47.

The lodge was located in Swanzey in 1817-18, and in Troy, 1819-26, when it returned to Fitzwilliam, where it remained until 1847, when it removed to Jaffrey. It is now located at East Jaffrey.

The first Masons made in Charity Lodge were William Barnard and Amasa Scott, of Fitzwilliam, and Robinson Perkins, then of Jaffrey. In the succeeding years members were

admitted from Marlborough, Richmond, Keene, Sullivan, Swanzey, and New Ipswich, N. H., and Winchendon, Royalston, Greenfield, and Townsend, Mass. Largest number of members, about sixty.

The members of the order now residing in town generally belong to the lodge in Troy.

ODD FELLOWS' LODGE.

On the petition of Nelson Howe and four others, this was instituted July 19th, 1849, by Grand Master Lyford, and Nelson Howe was appointed District Deputy Grand Master. The number of the lodge was 29, and it had in 1849 thirteen members and funds amounting to one hundred and ninety-two dollars. In 1851 there were twenty-three members, and a year later, when Artemas Stone was appointed District Deputy, there were twenty-two members, and funds amounting to forty-eight dollars. In 1854 the Grand Master reported No. 29 as virtually extinct, because of the loss of business and business men from Fitzwilliam, and recommended that the charter be withdrawn, and the property, after a debt of fifty dollars should have been paid, returned. This course seems to have been pursued.

WILD ANIMALS.

These were numerous one hundred and twenty-five years ago in portions of Southern New Hampshire, and especially in the towns around the base of Mount Monadnock. As beasts of this nature retire before the approach of civilized man their numbers were the greatest, and they remained the longest where the white population, for any reason, was the least, and the latest in commencing their settlements. These conditions met in Fitzwilliam, for the township had a slow growth and, moreover, was settled later than most of its neighbors. Long after the wolves and the bears had been driven from the territory north, south, east and west, they found a comparatively safe retreat on the almost inaccessible sides and in the deep ravines of Monadnock, and here they maintained themselves with great boldness and vigor.

As wolves rarely attack men, except when nearly starved, they were chiefly dreaded because of the depredations made by them upon the calves and sheep of the settlers. The bear was a more dangerous animal to encounter, while the thought of the catamount caused trembling in many a log hut of this region toward the close of the last century. Casual encounters with these beasts and the hunting of them (sometimes by large companies of armed men) served to break up the monotony of the life of the early settlers of this town, as the statements that follow will show conclusively.

The accounts here given have been condensed chiefly from the papers of Dr. Silas Cummings, and especially from a lecture prepared by him from materials that he had been collecting for many years, and which he appears to have delivered before his fellow-townsmen in 1873 :

In the early times wild cats were among the destructive animals, though they do not appear to have been very numerous. So far as known none were killed in this town till 1811, when Deacon Angier found the remains of several sheep that a wild cat had killed, and started in pursuit. Captain Chace followed him with his dogs, and Deacon Angier shot the animal in the west part of the town. Its weight was twenty-three pounds.

James Stone lost a sheep and found three wild cats feasting upon its carcase. Mr. Stone mounted his horse and rode near enough to shoot one of the animals, and afterward had the satisfaction of taking both the others in a trap.

Another was followed by several hunters who failed to shoot it before it reached its den, not far east of the house of Benjamin Byam.

In the early times two little boys, seven and nine years of age, were sent by their father from the extreme southern part of the town with a yoke of oxen, to borrow a cart. They had several miles to travel after the cart was obtained, and night came upon them before they could reach their home. They were near where the Fitzwilliam railroad station now is when a pack of wolves came upon their track, and by their barking and yelping frightened the poor boys terribly. One of them, more than twenty years after, told Dr. Cummings that his

hair stood erect and his flesh crawled as he expected the wolves would spring upon them every moment, while the affrighted oxen seemed to fly over stumps, rocks, mudholes, and pole-bridges as if possessed. All escaped unharmed.

A Mrs. Kelley seems to have had an evening school two miles or so west of the village, and Levi Tower and Oliver Damon, when little boys, were her pupils. Late one night as they were returning home they were followed and terribly frightened by a pack of wolves. But their outcries, as they approached the home of one of them, brought them help. The tracks of the hungry animals were found around the barn of Mr. Tower the following morning.

Mrs. Withington, living east of the village, went out to pick blueberries with her babe in her arms, when she found that a bear was her only companion in the field, a sight that sent her home with such rapidity that she had no time or courage to look behind her.

A Mrs. Bryant, living near the line of Richmond, when returning home from a neighbor's one afternoon found that she was followed by a bear very closely. She was carrying a part of a cheese, and from this she instantly broke a piece and threw it back toward the bear, while she quickened her pace that she might gain as much as possible in her flight while the bear was eating it. This process she repeated, till just as she dropped the last piece of the cheese her cry reached her home and brought her a speedy rescue.

Oliver Fullam was at work for Esquire Kendall on the hill east of the village where Mr. Charles Perry now lives, when he discovered a bear tearing in pieces one of Mr. Kendall's hogs. The bear at once left its repast and pursued Mr. Fullam, who ran for his life. As the race brought both the frightened man and the furious beast near the dwelling-house, Mrs. Kendall interfered by shaking her checked apron at the bear that retreated hastily and ignominiously. A little after that bear or another destroyed three of Mr. Kendall's calves, and he had no success in the way of revenge.

Mr. Boutelle, whose home was south of the depot, on Lot 7 in Range 8, to save his corn set a gun in his field with which

the intruder wounded himself so severely that he could not retreat, and Mr. Boutelle had the good fortune to secure a **huge bear and save his crop** from further depredations.

On Lot 7 in Range 11 in the southwest part of the town lived for a time a Mr. Pierce, who came unexpectedly upon a bear with two cubs. Upon his raising a cry the cubs succeeded in ascending a hemlock tree, while a shot from the gun of Mr. James Morse induced the old bear to retreat as fast as possible. The cubs were captured, Mr. Pierce taking one and giving the other to Mr. Benjamin Byam.

The account, of which the following is an outline, Dr. Cummings received from his friend and neighbor, Mr. Daniel Spaulding :

Deacon Lovejoy, of Rindge, found a bear held fast by one of its hind feet in a powerful steel trap which he had set and fastened by a draft chain to a log. He had his loaded gun with him, but as powder was dear and he did not wish to waste it, he went home and exchanged his gun for an axe. A little boy six or seven years old accompanied him as he went back to his trap. The bear dodged the first blow, and not only caught the axe from the hands of its assailant, but seized the arm of Mr. Lovejoy and drew him down under him. The boy attempting to aid his father was at once drawn down also. Under these desperate circumstances Mr. Lovejoy ran his hand and arm into the bear's mouth, and held them there till the bear was choked to death. His arm was injured for life, but he and his boy were saved.

Near the close of the last century the bears seem to have left the town mostly or to have been destroyed, but they were succeeded by wolves in greater numbers and, if possible, more destructive than ever before, and wolf hunts were for some years a necessity, if not a pastime.

The elder Mr. Forristall, Mr. Silas Angier, and Deacon Griffin lost sheep and lambs in considerable numbers, while in a single night sixteen of the flock of Mr. Spaulding, of Jaffrey, were destroyed. The whole community was now aroused, every gun was put in order, and every able-bodied man and boy enlisted to fight the common enemy.

Knowing that Monadnock was the stronghold of the wolves, a company of men from this and the adjoining towns chose Phineas Reed, Esq., as their leader, and surrounding the mountain a few rods apart they simultaneously worked their way to the top, only to find that the game secured consisted of an old bear with her two cubs, and four foxes. All except one of the cubs were shot, but the one saved repaid the kindness of the young man who was carrying it home by biting off one of his thumbs.

After descending the mountain Captain Reed's men heard the barking of a wolf in the woods not far off, and so they surrounded the woods and stood at their posts all night, determined that their foe should not escape. In the morning the wolf was driven out into a piece of cleared land. At least fifty bullets were now fired at him, but he broke the ring and made his way east into a meadow belonging to Rev. Mr. Ainsworth, where he was shot by a young man named Nathaniel Stanley. His weapon was one of the old "Queen's Arms," and he fired two balls and a slug before he finished his work.

As usual on such occasions, the bounty of twenty dollars which was to be received was spent at the nearest tavern.

Soon after this three wolves were killed in Swanzey and two in Marlborough. Meanwhile there were three successful wolf-hunts in what is now Troy. In the former of these Andrew Sherman was the hero, and the bounty was expended at the Warren store for liquor and crackers, but the company assembled was so large that the supply furnished to each man was only a single glass of rum and two crackers. Two years later, viz., in 1797, after the wolves had destroyed in one night ten sheep from the flock of Elijah Alexander, and a little later twenty owned by Levi Randall, two hundred or more men assembled, and succeeded in killing one wolf and fatally wounding another. On this occasion Jonas Robinson, whose store at that time was in the part of Fitzwilliam now belonging to Troy, met the returning hunters with a wagon-load of crackers, rum, and sugar.

But a "three-legged wolf" was still left to prey upon the sheep. A still larger party of huntsmen was organized, and

Jonathan Capron succeeded in wounding and partially disabling the animal. The wolf had still life enough to seize and shatter the stock of the musket which was raised to despatch it, and yielded only to a leaden ball in the head. The Common in Troy was the place of rendezvous, and again Jonas Robinson furnished the refreshments.

A single wolf was still left that alternated between Monadnock and Watatic, and committed great depredations among the flocks wherever it went. In the winter of 1819-20 a number of hunters with their hounds started in pursuit, but day after day the crafty beast rendered all their efforts fruitless. They followed the wolf through Jaffrey, Fitzwilliam, Winchendon, and Rindge, and even into the towns of Templeton and Gardner. Meanwhile storms came on, the snow became deep, and two of the original hunters becoming discouraged retired, though their places were at once supplied by more courageous and persevering men. At no time did the wolf neglect his nightly repast, but while the hunters were resting he took his meal in the nearest barnyard. Phineas Whitney entertained the wearied men one night, but while they were sleeping the wolf killed several of Mr. Whitney's sheep, drinking the blood as it flowed from the opened veins and taking a little of the most delicate meat, apparently not because it was hungry, but for the purpose of a pleasant entertainment. Then it lay down under some bushes and rested till it was time to start in the morning. For nine or ten days this warfare was kept up, and the wolf, though often seen and fired at, seemed as fresh as at the beginning. Colonel Jewett's bloodhounds were now put upon the track, and followed in close pursuit, but night came on and the wolf was safe. On the morning of the next day (the Sabbath), the people in Fitzwilliam village, having learned that the wolf was approaching Monadnock, turned out and formed lines of men along the roads to Rindge and Jaffrey. The hounds drove the wolf into the Scott meadow, where it was shot first by Shubael Plympton and then by Lewis Robbins, two or three bullets passing through its body and leaving it dead.

The prey was at once brought to Fitzwilliam Common amid

the cheers of the people. There was no religious service in the meeting-house on the morning of that Sabbath.

This is said to have been the last wolf-hunt in the region about Monadnock.

The catamount, which one hundred years ago was occasionally found in Southern New Hampshire, was a very formidable and dangerous beast to encounter. It is not known that any of this class of animals were ever killed within the limits of this town, but in the history of Troy we have an account of the slaughter of one of enormous proportions.

Knowing that some monster had killed a deer in the vicinity of their home, Deacon Fife and his son borrowed the powerful steel trap already spoken of as belonging to Mr. Lovejoy, of Rindge, and were successful in capturing the animal. A ball from the musket of young Fife soon brought the defiant beast to terms, for it appeared upon examination to have pierced its heart. From the nose to the end of the tail the catamount measured thirteen feet and four inches. For its stuffed skin the proprietors of the Boston Museum are said to have paid forty-five dollars.

CHAPTER XV.

FITZWILLIAM INDUSTRIES.

Agricultural Matters—Lumber—Mechanical Trades—Domestic Manufactures—Tanneries—Saw-Mills—The Scott Mill—Grist-Mills—Taxation of Mill Property—Wooden Ware—Other Manufactures—The Granite Industry—The Granite Itself—The Beginning and Progress of the Business—The Firms and Individuals Engaged in it.

FOR nearly three-quarters of a century after the settlement of this town the facilities of communication with the world at large were small, and the same may be said of the manufacturing business of the country when we compare it with what it is at the present day. As a result of this state of things the early settlers of Fitzwilliam were obliged to depend for food and clothing chiefly upon what could be raised or manufactured at home.

That the land was ever well adapted to the raising of large and largely remunerative crops, as is true in the valleys of our large rivers, we can hardly suppose, still it yielded a fair support to the families of the early settlers, and, under a good system of husbandry, is still productive. Corn, rye, beans, potatoes, and turnips for food, and flax and wool for clothing, were the chief productions, and nearly all that was raised was for home consumption. Some of the butter, cheese, pork, and beef soon began to find its way to other markets in exchange for family supplies that could not be readily obtained in any other manner, but from the beginning the home demand for these articles has been nearly equal to the production.

As a whole the agricultural interests of Fitzwilliam have made but little if any advance during the last half century, but this has not been due so much to the lack of enterprise or the actual wearing out of the land, as to the more inviting openings for remunerative employment in other pursuits. Still, the annual products of the soil of Fitzwilliam at the pres-

ent day are by no means inconsiderable. Probably, however, the time will never come when a farmer will become wealthy by raising wheat and corn in Fitzwilliam, such are the ease, rapidity, and cheapness of transportation from the vast agricultural regions of the West.

From the earliest settlement of the town the various mechanical trades have been well represented, sufficiently so certainly to meet the wants of the people. The names of the early carpenters, shoemakers, tailors, and other mechanics cannot be reasonably looked for in this volume, yet reference may well be made to two families of blacksmiths.

The Bowker Brothers—Bartlett, John, and Charles—were all blacksmiths, and had an established reputation in all the region. The Davis family has followed in the same line, Chancy, senior and junior, and Ezekiel, with his sons Van Ness and Isaac, all blacksmiths, though Fitzwilliam could never claim them all as resident mechanics.

Richard Foster, who lived in the east part of the town near the residence of Mr. A. W. Gowen, made spinning-wheels. Jason Babcock, who lived on Lot 3 in Range 12, made linen wheels. Thomas Clark and Stephen Harris, as already mentioned, manufactured various articles of wood for table use, such as bowls, cups, plates, etc., and this was the beginning of an important industry.

For about fifty years nearly all the cloth for clothing and other household uses was of home manufacture. The garments for summer were mostly made of tow or tow and linen cloth, and the woollen for winter wear was of domestic manufacture. Nearly every dwelling had its spinning-wheels, great and small, its implements to prepare wool and flax, and its loom for weaving. About 1790 a clothing mill was built in the north village and in it the cloth-dressing business was carried on by various persons, particularly by Salmon Whittemore. For ten or twelve years, commencing in 1816, Thomas Wilson was in the same business in the south part of the town. For many years a carding machine was in operation at the Harrington Mill, and for a shorter period another was run by Joel Hunt in the south portion of the town.

For more than twenty-five years, commencing near the close of the last century, Phineas Reed conducted a large tannery, and was succeeded in this business by his sons, Daniel and Charles. Heavy shoes were manufactured for several years by Charles Reed, but this business was long since given up to the large manufacturers in other towns.

Joel Hayden had a tannery for many years and was succeeded by A. M. & J. Wood, who in turn were followed by Asa S. Kendall. After the destruction of this tannery by fire Mr. Kendall removed to Swanzev.

About 1830 the manufacture of palm-leaf hats was introduced, and this for many years furnished a very profitable occupation for women and children. This business has continued till the present time, but at greatly reduced prices.

In the spring of 1836 Seth Whiting, a brushmaker, came to Fitzwilliam from Rindge. His chief business here was the preparation of palm-leaf for the hat-braiders and the manufacture of brooms from the waste material of the palm-leaf. Later he removed to Boston and resumed the manufacture of brushes. At present his son, John L. Whiting, is one of the largest manufacturers of this article in the country.

As there are no large and constant streams of water in Fitzwilliam, no large and extensive manufacturing business has ever been prosecuted here, still such water-power as the town affords has been improved from the earliest settlement.

The proprietors of the township gave, as we have seen, substantial aid toward building the first mills. In August, 1765, they voted to pay Colonel Sampson Stoddard twenty pounds on condition that he should deed to Daniel Mellen two lots of land to encourage Mr. Mellen to build a saw-mill. This was the first mill in town and was built probably in 1767. It was located at the foot of the little meadow, about one fourth of a mile easterly from the house of Nahum Hayden, and upon the two lots of land deeded for this purpose to Mr. Mellen. At the present time no one would think of locating a mill at that place, so many better localities could be found, though it is possible that the supply of water in that stream has greatly

diminished in one hundred and twenty years. The proprietors voted, October 7th, 1767, to Captain Silas Witherby thirteen pounds six shilling and eightpence for his encouragement in building a saw-mill. This was located on Lot 16 in Range 3, and was the second mill in the township. Mr. Wetherbee sold his interest in the lot and mill to Benjamin Scott, and from him and his son Barakiah the mill and the brook upon which it stands received the name which they retain to this day.

Samuel Kendall, Esq., was interested in this mill at an early date, but whether as early or earlier than the Scotts cannot be stated.

The following list of the occupants of this mill has been made up from the tax-lists and other sources, and is believed to be substantially correct :

Barakiah Scott, 1793 to 1810 inclusive.

Samuel Kendall, Esq., 1792 to 1809.

Timothy & Luke Kendall, 1806 to 1815.

Luke Kendall and Abel Marshall, 1816 to 1823.

Luke Kendall alone, 1824 to 1836.

Howe & Rand, 1837 to 1839.

David Taft, 1840 to 1842.

Jonathan S. Adams and Raymond Stratton, 1844.

J. S. Adams alone, 1845 to 1847.

Elijah Bowker (1848 to 1850 ?).

George W. Wilson and Seth R. Fisher, 1851.

George W. Wilson and William H. Kinsman, 1852 to 1854.

Hosea Platts, 1855 to 1859.

William H. Kinsman alone, 1860 to 1871.

George W. Simonds, 1872 to 1877.

Elijah Wilder, 1879 to 1880.

Edward A. Kendall, 1881 to 1883.

George A. Stone, 1884--

The mill on Lot 9 in Range 4 was built near the close of the last century, and has been owned and occupied by four successive generations of Stones : Hezekiah, Artemas, Artemas, Jr., and Samuel S.

At a meeting of the proprietors held October 11th, 1768, at the inn of Captain Thomas Cowdin, in Fitchburg, it was

Voted the sum of £20 L^s M^o (Lawful Money) be paid to Colo. Stoddard in Consideration of his Conveying to Mr Tiffany two Lots of Land to Build a Grist mill on & that sum to be In full for the same.

Mr. Tiffany did not make a satisfactory mill, and March 4th, 1772, the proprietors passed the following votes :

Voted to not except of the Grist mill Bult in Monadnock No 4 by Doctor Gideon Tiffany.

Voted and choose James Reed Esqr Mr Edward Kindal and Mr Elijah Clays a Committee in Behalf of this Propriety to put in Execution a Bond Given by Gideon Tiffany to Buld and Keep in Good Repair a water Grist mill in Monadnock No 4 on Either Lott No 22 or No 23 in the 8 Rang of Lotts or come to some proper settelment with the said Tiffany in Regard of Said mill as it is not Excepted by the Proprietors, and said Committee to Lay their Proseedings with Said Tiffany before this Propriety at their next meeting.

The mill was completed and put in running order by Thomas Tolman, the History of Troy says, in 1769, which is certainly two, and, possibly, three years too early. Benjamin Bigelow, the first settler in town, went to Hinsdale in May, 1771, to have some grain ground, and was drowned in the Ashuelot River in Winchester on his return. It is evident that the mill was not in working order at this time, as no one would go twenty miles for what he could get done within three miles. It is probable that Mr. Tolman had bought the property, and that this change of ownership was the cause of the action taken against Dr. Tiffany. A few years later Mr. Tolman built a saw-mill on the same stream and very near the grist-mill. About 1780 the property was bought by Joshua Harrington. The saw-mill was not long used, but the grist-mill was kept in operation by Mr. Harrington and his sons for over fifty years. The location is now occupied by the Troy Blanket Factory.

The second grist-mill was built by Philip Amadon about 1784, and was located at or near the spot now occupied by the saw-mill of Anson G. Beebe. The power at this place is now

entirely given to wood-working machinery, no grain having been ground for a long time.

In 1825 Bartlet Bowker built a grist-mill which he and his sons Luke and Elijah kept in operation for many years. The Bowkers resided in Fitzwilliam, but the grist-mill was located just over the line in Troy, though within the original limits of this town.

In later years Benjamin M. Fiske had a grist-mill at the south part of the town, and some few others have operated such mills for brief periods of time.

The only grain-mill now in town is located at the old Stone mill.

The records of Fitzwilliam contain no general town tax-lists of an earlier date than 1793. In that year Joshua Harrington, Samuel Kendall, Esq., and Barakiah Scott were taxed on mill property. As there were certainly more mills in the town at that time the others were doubtless included in real estate. From the date given above to 1800 all the mills were treated as real estate, but commencing with 1801 some of them were taxed separately, while after 1810 the separation of mills from other property seems to have been general. Before 1833 the tax on mills appears to have been laid on an estimated rental depending probably somewhat upon the amount of business, but after 1833 mills, like other property, were taxed according to their valuation.

The number of persons in town who have been taxed on mill property from 1801 to 1886 is about one hundred and seventy-five, the length of time running from one to thirty-six years. In many of the shorter periods the occupants of the mills rather than the owners paid the tax.

Aside from common saw-mill work the quantity of wood worked up by machinery was very small till about 1825, when the manufacture of wooden ware increased rapidly, till it became at length one of the chief industries of the town.

The following list gives the names of all who appear to have been taxed on mills for ten years or more since 1801, including also such as were taxed on similar property in 1793. In

the list the first and last years of taxation are given, and, in brackets, the number of years each person named has been taxed :

Philip Amadon [16] 1801-1821.
 Anson G. Beebe [19] 1868-1886.
 Levi B. Bent [13] 1841-1854.
 Joseph Blodgett [12] 1840-1866.
 Luke & Elijah Bowker [14] 1834-1853 succeeded by
 Elijah Bowker [19] 1854-1877.
 Milton Chaplin [13] 1827-1839 succeeded by
 Elisha Chaplin [25] 1840-1881.
 Joshua T. Collins [30] 1834-1867 succeeded by A G Beebe above.
 Horace Coolidge [34] 1846-86.
 Jonas Damon [21] 1866-1886.
 Bela W. Felch [21] 1837-1859.
 Joshua Harrington 1793 & 1801-1815.
 Albert Hayden [11] 1876-1886.
 Seth N. Holman [19] 1868-1886.
 Nelson Howe & Joel Howe & Co. (M. P. Damon) [34] 1834-1867.
 Nahum Howe [11] 1842-1854.
 Nahum Howe jr. [31] 1843-1873 succeeded by his son
 Henry P. Howe [13] 1874-1886.
 Samuel Kendall Esqr. 1793 & 1802-1809.
 Luke Kendall [27] 1806-1836 son of Samuel.
 William H. Kinsman [15] 1852-1871.
 Dea. Nehemiah Monroe [14] 1814-1829 non-resident.
 J. C. Richmond [19] 1868-1886.
 Barakiah and Elijah S. Scott 1793 & 1801-1810.
 George W. Simonds [25] 1840-1877.
 Jacob Simonds [16] 1831-47.
 Edmund Spaulding [10] 1860-1869.
 Hezekiah Stone [16] 1801-1820.
 Artemas Stone [36] 1803-1838 son of Hezekiah.
 Artemas Stone Jr. [11] 1833-1859, son of Artemas.
 Samuel S. Stone [18] 1869-1886, son of Artemas jr.
 Moses Stone [21] 1808-1848, son of Hezekiah.
 Thomas J. Streeter [28] 1825-1860.
 Emery Taft [16] 1824-1843.
 Charles L. Taft [12] 1867-1878.
 Lyman K. Wheeler [27] 1860-1886.

Since 1832 the following persons have been taxed on mills on \$1000.00 or over for 10 years or more :

Anson G. Beebe, Jonas Damon, Seth N. Holman, N. & J. Howe & Co., Samuel S. Stone—

On \$1000.00 or over for 5 years or over and less than 10 years.

William Brooks, Elisha Chaplin, Warner Clifford, Coolidge & Whittemore, Jacob Simonds, Thomas J. Streeter, Emery Taft.—

On \$500.00 or over for 10 years or more, and not included in preceding lists,

Elijah Bowker, J. T. Collins, Horace Coolidge, Bela W. Felch, Nahum Howe Jr., Henry P. Howe, George W. Simonds, Charles L. Taft, Lyman K. Wheeler.

As wooden ware constituted a class of goods not known during the early part of this century in the regular mercantile trade, it became necessary to seek for it a market, and within a few years after its manufacture was entered upon in earnest the wooden-ware peddlers of Milton Chaplin and Norris Colburn were distributing their wares not only in Southern New Hampshire, but also in the other States of New England, and in New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania. Some time after the Cheshire Railroad was opened, two gentlemen belonging in the northern part of New York, who were on their way to Boston, stopped over at Fitzwilliam that they might see the place whose name had become so familiar to them by the passage to and fro in their neighborhood of the wooden-ware carts. Supposing that they should find here a large town or city of ten or fifteen thousand inhabitants, they were astonished beyond measure to discover that the central part of the famous Fitzwilliam was only a small hamlet of some seventy-five houses.

It may be added that at the present time substantially all the wooden ware manufactured in the country is disposed of through the regular channels of trade.

About fifty years ago Jacob Felton manufactured chairs in this town, but it was found difficult to compete in this industry with such places as Ashburnham and Gardner, Mass., with their vastly better water-power. In recent years George W. Simonds manufactured picture-frames in considerable quantities in this place, but like many others who made similar experiments in endeavoring to establish lines of profitable manufactures here, he found that the superior advantages of other places resulting from better water-power or more favorable locations made it next to impossible for him to compete successfully in the markets of the country.

THE FITZWILLIAM GRANITE INDUSTRY.

As was stated in the opening chapter of this history, Fitzwilliam is noted both for its extensive ledges of granite underlying the soil and its bowlders of the same material upon the surface. In this respect no other town in this part of New

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